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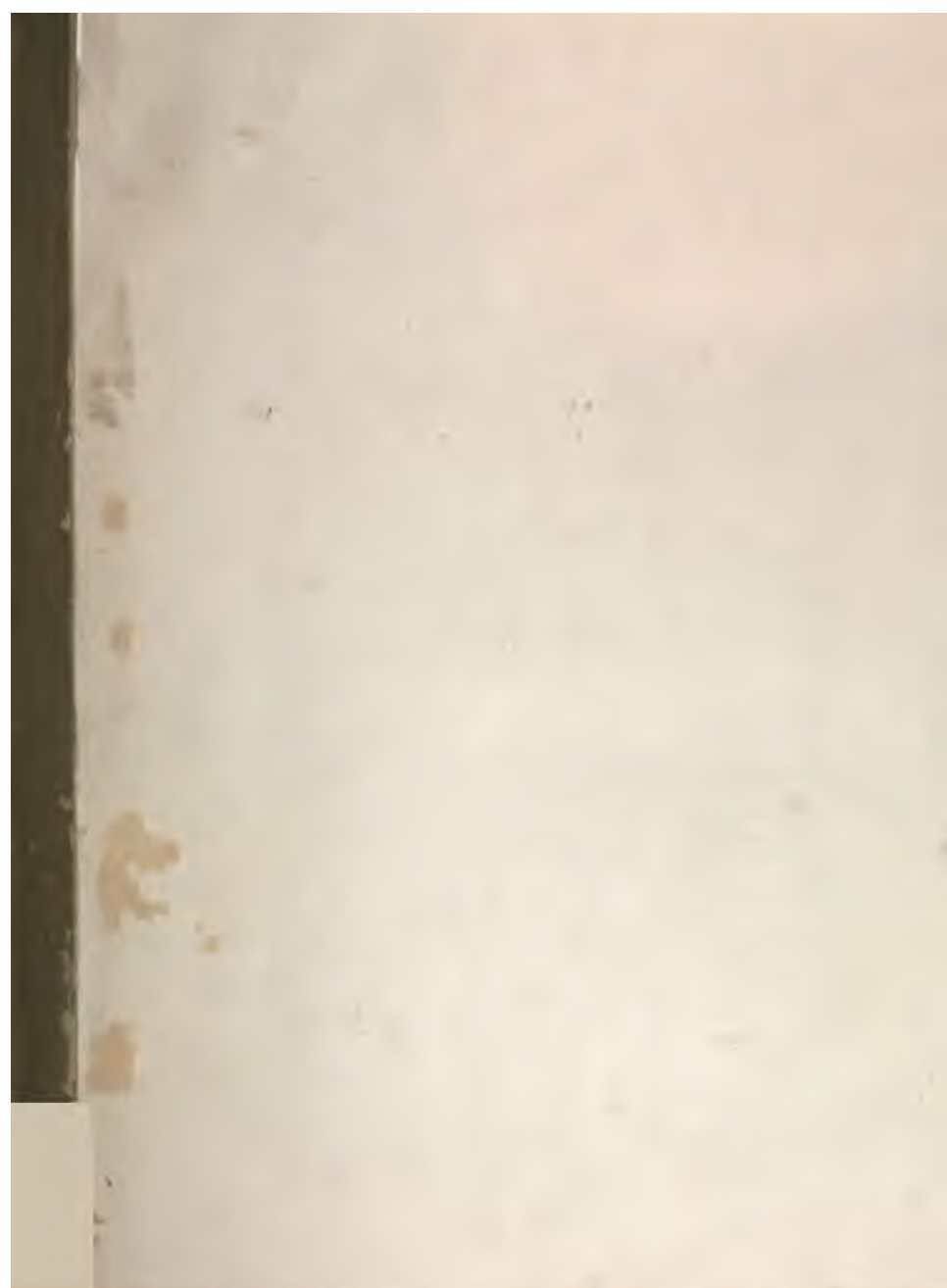
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STATE OF NEW YORK.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

TRANSMITTED TO THE LEGISLATURE JANUARY 14, 1876.

ALBANY:
WEED, PARSONS AND COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1876.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

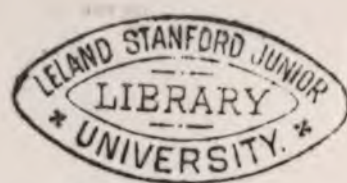
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A12046

STATE OF NEW YORK.

No. 19.

IN SENATE,

January 14, 1876.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

STATE OF NEW YORK:

OFFICE OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES, }
ALBANY, *January 14, 1876.* }

To the Honorable WILLIAM DORSHEIMER,

Lieut.-Governor and President of the Senate:

SIR — I have the honor to transmit the Ninth Annual Report of the State Board of Charities to the Legislature.

Yours, with great respect,

JOHN V. L. PRUYN,

President of the Board.

STATE OF NEW YORK.

MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES,

1876.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

HON. WM. DORSHEIMER, Lieutenant-Governor, - - - ALBANY.
HON. JOHN BIGELOW, Secretary of State, - - - ALBANY.
HON. LUCIUS ROBINSON, Comptroller, - - - ALBANY.
HON. CHAS. S. FAIRCHILD, Attorney-General, - - - ALBANY.

MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR AND SENATE.

First Judicial District—THEODORE ROOSEVELT, 94 Maiden Lane, New York.

New York County -- HENRY L. HOGUET, 48 West 28th Street, New York (under Chap. 571, Laws of 1873.)
(One vacancy.)

Second Judicial District—HARVEY G. EASTMAN, Poughkeepsie.

Kings County — A. A. LOW, 3 Pierrepont Place, Brooklyn, (under Chap. 571, Laws of 1873).

Third Judicial District—JOHN V. L. PRUYN, 13 Elk Street, Albany.

Fourth Judicial District—EDWARD W. FOSTER, Potsdam, St. Lawrence County.

Fifth Judicial District—JOHN C. DEVEREUX, Utica,

Sixth Judicial District—SAMUEL F. MILLER, Franklin, Delaware County.

Seventh Judicial District—MARTIN B. ANDERSON, Rochester.

Eighth Judicial District—WM. P. LETCHWORTH, Buffalo.

OFFICERS.

JOHN V. L. PRUYN, - - - - - PRESIDENT.
WM. P. LETCHWORTH, - - - - - VICE-PRESIDENT.
CHAS. S. HOYT, Albany, - - - - - SECRETARY.
JAMES O. FANNING, Albany, - - - - - ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD, 11 HIGH STREET, ALBANY.

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REPORT.

To the Honorable the Legislature :

In conformity with the requirements of the statute, the State Board of Charities respectfully submit this their ninth annual

REPORT.

The powers and duties of the Board have been so fully set forth in former reports (to which we beg to refer) that no extended mention of them is deemed to be necessary. A brief statement of the work performed by the Board since its organization, and the general results thus far attained, is thought, however, to be desirable.

The Board was organized under the act chapter 951 of the Laws of 1867. Under this act it was authorized to visit and inspect the various charitable institutions of the State, supported wholly or in part by the public funds, and required to report to the Legislature. By subsequent acts its powers of visitation were extended, and its range of inquiries enlarged. Its labors have thus steadily increased, and their results have assumed, it is believed, greater value and importance.

Since its organization, now nearly nine years ago, the Board, by its committees and officers, has visited each year, as far as practicable, the various institutions of the State subject to its inspection, and presented reports of their condition annually to the Legislature, accompanied by a large amount of important statistical information, carefully analyzed and tabulated. A number of special inquiries, bearing upon subjects coming within the purview of its duties, have also been conducted by the Board during this time, and the results communicated to the Legislature.

Among the more important of these inquiries, the following may be enumerated :

1. As to the condition of the inmates of the poor-houses in 1868.

2. As to orphan asylums, hospitals and reformatories in 1869.

3. As to the condition of the inmates of the poor-houses in 1870.

4. As to the number and condition of the insane and idiots of the State in 1871.

5. As to the condition of the inmates of the poor-houses in 1872.

6. As to pauper and destitute children in 1873.

7. In regard to the system of out-door relief, and as respects alien paupers, and also as to the condition of the children in the poor-houses in 1874.

The facts thus obtained by these special inquiries and annual visitations, it is believed, have been of great value as a guide to legislation upon the various subjects referred to, and in the administration of public charity. The results may be briefly summed up as follows :

1. An improved condition of the poor-houses generally, throughout the State, with greater economy and stricter accountability as to their expenditures.

2. A better understanding of the objects and purposes of the orphan asylums, hospitals and other like charities, and the extension of their benefits to a much larger number of persons than heretofore.

3. A general improvement in the treatment and care of the insane and idiots in the county poor-houses, and a closer observance of the statutes regulating the transfer of these classes to appropriate State institutions.

4. The new law of settlement of paupers, securing proper attention and care by the State, for certain poor, heretofore neglected by the local authorities, and providing for their

removal to friends, or places of legal settlement in other States or countries, resulting in a great saving to the public.

5. The removal of dependent children from the poor-houses, and providing for their support, education, training and care separate from adult paupers.

6. A more careful and intelligent investigation into the condition of persons applying for public aid, resulting in a wiser discrimination very generally in the administration of outdoor relief.

7. The establishment of a uniform and improved system of records of inmates of poor-houses, and a more careful study of the causes of pauperism by the officers of these institutions, with a view to the application of agencies designed to lessen its social and financial evils.

The labors of the Board for the past year will now be noticed.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

The Board has held four public meetings since its last annual report (January 15, 1875), of which proper notice was given. The members in attendance at each of these meetings, reported here as provided by the statute, was as follows :

At Albany, April 6, 1875, Commissioners Pruyn, Letchworth, Miller, Anderson, Low, Roosevelt and Hognet.

At New York, June 10, 1875, Commissioners Pruyn, Letchworth, Anderson, Foster, Devereux, Eastman, Low, Roosevelt and Hognet.

At Albany, September 9, 1875, the Secretary of State, and Commissioners Letchworth, Eastman and Miller.

At Albany, December 27, 1875, the Secretary of State, and Commissioner Pruyn, Letchworth, Low, Roosevelt, Hognet, Eastman, Miller and Devereux.

BUSINESS OF THE OFFICE.

The office business during the past year has been much greater than in former years, and is steadily increasing with

the increase of the duties of the Board. The registration of State paupers, the examination of the testimony, and the correspondence connected with the matter, is attended with a large amount of labor, and requires great care and prompt attention. The preparation of the forms of records of inmates of poor-houses, hereafter referred to, has involved considerable labor, and much time has also been given to collecting and tabulating statistical and financial information, regarding "tramps" and various other subjects. The secretary being engaged most of the time in the visitation of institutions, and in the discharge of special duties conferred upon him by statute, the office work has been conducted mainly by the assistant secretary.

VISITATIONS.

During the past year the several commissioners have devoted considerable time to the visitation of institutions, not only in their respective districts, but throughout the State. The vice-president, at the request of the Board, has visited and examined all the orphan asylums, reformatories and other institutions, having the custody and care of children, and has been engaged in this work a large part of the year. The secretary alone, or in company with members of the Board, has visited nearly all the county poor-houses, and the various State institutions, hospitals and other public charities. Periodical visitations of the several State alms-houses have been maintained during the year, and examinations of State paupers made, with a view to their removal to the care of friends, or to places of legal settlement.

Under the concurrent resolution of the Senate and Assembly of 1873, the Board, in 1874, instituted an inquiry into the causes of pauperism, involving an examination of all the inmates of the poor-houses and alms-houses of the State, which was nearly completed during that year. The matter was briefly referred to in the last annual report, and full

information furnished regarding the children examined. The inquiry during the past year has been finished, and the results, which are now being analyzed and tabulated, will as soon as practicable be presented to the Legislature.

COUNTY VISITING COMMITTEES.

By the act chapter 571 of the Laws of 1873, authority is conferred upon the Board to designate suitable persons in any county of the State, to act as visitors to the institutions of the county, subject to its inspection. The Board, in 1873, accordingly designated visitors in a number of counties, and subsequently, also in several other counties. The number of these visitors may be increased, as suitable persons are found willing to serve, and occasion may seem to require.

The persons thus designated as visitors have, in most instances, made periodical inspections of the institutions in their respective counties, and shown zeal and interest in their work. The Board offer their sincere thanks to these intelligent and benevolent persons for their disinterested labors in behalf of the unfortunate classes, and for the valuable services they have rendered in the work of visitation.

DIVISIONS OF THE REPORT.

Other subjects will now be considered, as follows:

- I. Record of Inmates of Poor-houses and Alms-houses.
- II. State Paupers.
- III. Pauper and Destitute Children.
- IV. Provision for the Chronic Insane.
- V. Tramps.
- VI. Statistical and Financial Tables.
- VII. Appended Documents.

The Statistical and Financial Tables are hereto annexed. These are, it is believed, of great interest and importance, and will again be referred to.

I. RECORD OF INMATES OF POOR-HOUSES AND ALMS-HOUSES.

The failure heretofore to keep and preserve proper records in the poor-houses and alms-houses of the State has, it is believed, been one of the greatest defects in the administration of their affairs. A general register of the inmates, for business purposes, has been kept in most of these institutions, but no records as to their personal or family history before coming dependent, or of any changes that may have occurred in their condition after admission, have been preserved in any of them. This fact became known to the Board at an early day, and attention was called to the subject. The defects in this respect, however, were more fully brought out by the inquiry into the causes of pauperism, instituted by the Board in 1874, and completed the past year.

It was found by this inquiry that many of the officers of poor-houses and alms-houses had acquired a large amount of valuable information regarding those under their care, and also as to the classes in their respective localities, partially dependent, and who in the end were likely to become permanent public burdens. No record of this information, however, was made by these officers, and it was, therefore, of no value to the public. They generally acknowledged the importance of preserving it, and expressed their willingness to obtain and record it, but, in the absence of proper statutory directions, were at loss how best to accomplish the object. The act of 1875, framed in accordance with the recommendations of the Board in their last annual report, will, it is believed, obviate the difficulties heretofore existing, and meet the purposes for which it was intended. A copy of this act (chapter 140 of the Laws of 1875) is hereto annexed, for reference, and marked No. 28.

A brief statement of the action had under the act, and the results obtained, is believed to be desirable.

It will be observed that the statute required the Board to prescribe and furnish forms for the records to be kept. A conference was had on the subject, at an early day, with a committee of superintendents of the poor appointed by the State convention of superintendents, and their views were obtained. The forms, a copy of which are hereto annexed and marked No. 29, were then prepared.

These forms were, in September last, furnished in substantially bound books, to the proper officers of the poor-houses and alms-houses of the State, with full instructions as to their use. The records are required to be carefully preserved and copies made and forwarded to the Board, by the proper officers, on the last day of each month. Annexed hereto is a copy of the instructions thus issued, marked No. 30.

In order to secure uniformity and accuracy in these records, personal conferences were had, as far as practicable, with the keepers of the poor-houses and alms-houses throughout the State, by members and officers of the Board, before the work was commenced. These officials have generally shown great interest in the subject, and although it is attended with much labor, they entered upon the work with earnestness and zeal. The time is fortunate for the undertaking, as most of the poor-houses and alms-houses are under the control of intelligent and capable officers, many of whom bring to their duties the advantages of large experience.

The records for the present are now in use in nearly all the poor-houses and alms-houses of the State, and copies have been made and forwarded to the Board. The examinations have been extended so as to include all the inmates of these institutions, and the officers generally are entitled to great credit for the care and intelligence exhibited in the work. A large amount of valuable information, regarding the sources of pauperism, has already been secured through this system of registration, and it is believed that in time important results will be thus obtained.

II. STATE PAUPERS.

The act chapter 661 of the Laws of 1873 provides for the support and care, by the State, of poor persons not having a residence of sixty days in any county, and who, by reason of infirmity, are unable by their work to maintain themselves. By this act the Board was authorized, on behalf of the State, to contract with the authorities of five counties or cities for the support and care of this class of paupers, in the poor-houses or other suitable buildings of such counties or cities to be designated and known, while thus used, as State alms-houses, and by act chapter 464 of the Laws of 1874, authority was given to increase the number of such alms-houses to fifteen. Accordingly, contracts were made with five counties and cities in 1873, and subsequently with six other counties. The following is a list of such State alms-houses, their location, the date of the contract with the State, the number of State paupers each has agreed to accommodate, and the respective rates of support per week :

| STATE ALMS-HOUSES. | Location. | Date of contract. | Accommodations for State paupers. | Rate of support per week. |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Albany city..... | Albany | October 1, 1873 | 200 | \$2 50 |
| Suffolk county..... | Yaphank | October 1, 1873 | 150 | 2 30 |
| Delaware county..... | Delhi | October 1, 1873 | 50 | 2 25 |
| St. Lawrence county..... | Canton..... | October 1, 1873 | 150 | 2 00 |
| Erie county..... | Buffalo..... | October 1, 1873 | 200 | 2 40 |
| Broome county..... | Binghamton..... | January 1, 1875 | 50 | 2 25 |
| Jefferson county..... | Watertown..... | January 1, 1875 | 50 | 2 00 |
| Onondaga county..... | Syracuse | January 1, 1875 | 100 | 2 40 |
| Kings county..... | Flatbush..... | June 20, 1875 | 200 | 2 50 |
| Onelida county..... | Rome | Dec. 23, 1875 | 25 | 2 40 |
| Seneca county..... | Waterloo..... | January 1, 1876 | 25 | 2 35 |
| Total..... | ..... | ..... | 1,200 | ..... |

Accommodations, it will be seen, have been thus provided for twelve hundred (1200) of this class of paupers, at the average rate, as between the eleven institutions named, of \$2.31 per week.

The authority to commit paupers to such alms-houses was vested by the act in county judges, justices of the peace and

police justices ; and by act chapter 308 of the Laws of 1875 it was extended to county superintendents of the poor.

The Board is authorized to establish rules and regulations for the discipline, employment, treatment and care of such paupers, and also for their discharge ; and the Secretary is vested with authority to transfer the insane to State asylums, to indenture children, or place them in orphan asylums, and also to cause the removal of paupers, at their request, to the care of friends or places of settlement in other States or countries. The statute provides that duplicate records shall be kept of all paupers committed to the several State alms-houses, and directs that the Secretary shall, from time to time, verify the correctness of such records, both by comparisons with each other, and by examination of such paupers. It also provides for the payment of the expenses for the support and care of such paupers, by the State, at the rates agreed upon.

The first commitment under the act was made October 22, 1873. The following is a statement of the number of persons committed to the several State alms-houses, as State paupers, from October 22, 1873, to September 30, 1875:

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| For the 11 months and 8 days ending Sept. 30, 1874..... | 513 | 50 | 563 |
| For the year ending Sept. 30, 1875 | 566 | 88 | 654 |
| Total | 1,079 | 138 | 1,217 |

The total committed to September 30, 1875, it thus appears, was one thousand two hundred and seventeen (1,217).

The following table shows the several State alms-houses to which such State paupers were committed and the changes from October 22, 1873, to September 30, 1875:

| ALMS-HOUSES. | Whole number committed. | Discharged. | Bound out. | Provided for by adoption or otherwise. | Absconded. | Transferred. | Sent out of the State to friends or places of settlement. | Died. | Remained October 1, 1875. |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------|--|------------|--------------|---|-------|---------------------------|
| Albany..... | 127 | 19 | .... | 3 | 35 | 3 | 49 | 8 | 10 |
| Buffalo..... | 561 | 179 | .... | 24 | 56 | 7 | 249 | 155 | 33 |
| Canton..... | 27 | 4 | .... | .... | 1 | .... | 19 | .... | 1 |
| Delhi..... | 40 | 13 | .... | .... | 17 | 1 | 6 | 3 | .... |
| Yaphank..... | 423 | 3 | .... | 13 | 3 | .... | 395 | 7 | 16 |
| Binghamton..... | 20 | 4 | .... | .... | 3 | .... | .... | 1 | 6 |
| Syracuse..... | 6 | 1 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 2 | .... | 1 |
| Watertown..... | 7 | .... | .... | .... | 1 | .... | 3 | .... | 3 |
| Flatbush..... | 6 | 1 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 | .... | 1 |
| Total..... | 1217 | 224 | .... | 29 | 123 | 11 | 738 | 32 | 60 |

The ages of such State paupers committed to the several State alms-houses from October 22, 1873, to September 30, 1875, are shown by the following table:

| ALMS-HOUSES. | Under twenty y'rs. | Twenty years, and under thirty. | Thirty years, and under forty. | Forty years, and under fifty. | Fifty years, and under sixty. | Sixty years, and under seventy. | Over seventy y'rs. | Total. |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Albany..... | 23 | 21 | 27 | 25 | 13 | 7 | 6 | 127 |
| Buffalo..... | 96 | 139 | 121 | 77 | 51 | 46 | 31 | 561 |
| Canton..... | 7 | 6 | 5 | 3 | .... | 2 | .... | 27 |
| Delhi..... | 3 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 40 |
| Yaphank..... | 32 | 215 | 104 | 45 | 17 | 9 | 1 | 423 |
| Binghamton..... | .... | 2 | 7 | .... | 2 | 2 | 7 | 20 |
| Syracuse..... | .... | 1 | 2 | 2 | .... | 1 | .... | 6 |
| Watertown..... | 3 | 2 | 1 | .... | .... | .... | 1 | 7 |
| Flatbush..... | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .... | .... | .... | 6 |
| Total..... | 172 | 392 | 274 | 162 | 92 | 74 | 51 | 1,217 |

The following is a statement of the changes occurring in the several State alms-houses during the year ending September 30, 1875.

| ALMS-HOUSES. | No. of inmates October 1, 1874. | No. committed during the year. | Whole number supported. | Discharged. | Bound out. | Provided for by adoption or oth- erwise. | Absconded. | Transferred. | Sent out of the State to friends or settlements. | Remained Oct. 1, '75. | | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|------------|--|------------|--------------|--|--------------------------|-------|---------|--------|
| | | | | | | | | | | Died. | Male. | Female. | Total. |
| Albany | 9 | 71 | 80 | 15 | .... | ... | 23 | 2 | 24 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 10 |
| Buffalo | 24 | 296 | 320 | 97 | .... | 10 | 35 | 5 | 132 | 13 | 18 | 10 | 28 |
| Canton | 3 | 8 | 10 | 3 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 | .... | .... | 1 | 1 |
| Delhi | 2 | 25 | 27 | 11 | .... | .... | 14 | .... | .... | 22 | .... | .... | .... |
| Yaphank | 9 | 215 | 224 | 1 | .... | .... | 5 | .... | 208 | .... | 10 | .... | 10 |
| Binghamton | ... | 20 | 20 | 4 | .... | .... | 3 | .... | 7 | .... | 6 | .... | 6 |
| Syracuse | ... | 6 | 6 | 1 | .... | .... | 1 | .... | 2 | .... | 1 | .... | 1 |
| Watertown | ... | 7 | 7 | .... | .... | .... | 1 | .... | 3 | .... | 1 | .... | 3 |
| Flatbush | ... | 6 | 6 | 1 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 4 | .... | 1 | .... | 1 |
| Total | 46 | 654 | 700 | 133 | .... | 10 | 83 | 7 | 384 | 23 | 43 | 17 | 60 |

It will be seen that the number disposed of during the year was six hundred and forty (640), thus leaving sixty (60) in the State alms-houses, as the table shows, October 1, 1875. There were also four (4) children in orphan asylums, and six (6) insane in State asylums, making in all seventy (70) under State care. A large number of these have since been disposed of, and it is not probable that any great portion of those remaining will become permanent burdens upon the State, as only twenty-two (22) had been under care over one year.

The beneficial results of the act, it is believed, have already been very great, not only as regards the persons aided, but also as a matter of public economy. It will be seen that of those committed, seven hundred and thirty-eight (738), or over sixty per cent, have been sent to the care of friends, or places of settlement in other States or countries. In addition to this, two hundred and twenty-four (224) have been discharged upon recovery, and twenty-nine (29) provided with situations, thus making nine hundred and ninety-one (991) in all, or nearly eighty-two per cent, who have been restored to society and friends, or placed where the burden of their support properly belongs. There is no doubt that a very considerable portion of these, without such aid from the State, would now have been inmates of our poor-houses and alms-houses, many of them to continue public burdens through life. It should be

added, that of those sent away or otherwise disposed of, but few have since applied for aid.

To show the results thus far in a financial point of view, it is fair to estimate that of the nine hundred and ninety-one (991) persons sent out of the State or restored to society and friends up to September 30, 1875, at least five hundred (500), had they not been thus aided, would have become permanently chargeable to the several counties. Estimating the cost of supporting each one annually at the moderate amount of \$160, it would aggregate \$80,000 per annum, representing a capital, at five per cent, of \$1,600,000. The work of removal was effected at a cost of about \$7,000, and the whole expenses under the act, during the first two years of its operation, was less than \$28,000.

The condition of the persons committed during the past year has varied considerably from that of those committed the first year. A better understanding of the objects and purposes of the statute prevails among the superintendents and other officers throughout the State, and cases of well-marked infirmity only, as a general rule, have been committed. That many of these when committed were suffering with severe disease, or grave bodily or mental infirmities, is evident from the fact that twenty-three (23) of those under care during the year died. A considerable number of those remaining are suffering from diseases, which, in very many cases, it is thought, will soon terminate fatally.

The commitments under the act since the 30th of September last, have largely diminished as compared with the same period in 1874. The number committed that year, from September 30 to December 31, was two hundred and seventy-four (274); in 1875, for the same period, one hundred and forty-five (145). During the first year, a large number of persons who had been wandering about the State, were brought under the law and disposed of as their settlements were determined. The cases now arising are those only of persons who enter the State in distress and apply for aid. The thorough investigation and prompt disposal of the shiftless

and idle classes coming from other States and countries, and from Canada, who, heretofore, have sought shelter in our poor-houses, it is believed, now deter many of this character from coming into our State.

Satisfactory relations and a good understanding exist between the Board and the various officers of the State alms-houses. The officers of these institutions have given a hearty support in the work of investigation, and rendered much valuable aid in enforcing the law. The eleven State alms-houses, already referred to, furnish all the accommodations necessary for the present requirements.

III. PAUPER CHILDREN.

In the first examination of the poor-houses of the State, by the Board, in 1868, there were found in these institutions, not including New York and Kings counties, one thousand two hundred and twenty-two (1,222) children under sixteen years of age, or 17.41 per cent of all the inmates. The alms-house of New York city contained, at the same time, six hundred and thirty (630) children, and that of Kings county, three hundred and seventy-nine (379), making a total of one thousand and nine (1,009), or 15.48 per cent of the inmates of these institutions. These last-mentioned alms-houses had separate buildings for the children, but as they were brought into constant association with adult pauper inmates, their situation was little or no better than that of the children in the county poor-houses.

It thus appears that the number of pauper children in the State at that time was two thousand two hundred and thirty-one (2,231), equivalent to 16.49 per cent of all the paupers. This examination and subsequent inquiries by the Board fully demonstrated that poor-houses were not fit places in which to rear children, and that all attempts for their improvement under such circumstances would be almost vain. In most of these institutions were found parents, many of them shiftless, intemperate and idle, and with them their children supported

at the public expense, and forming habits destined to break down their self-respect and to render them dependent through life. The Board, therefore, early took measures to procure as far as possible, the removal of the children from the poor houses to families and asylums, and to secure for them proper training and care, separated from the association of adult paupers. In this work earnest appeals for co-operation were made to superintendents and keepers, and to the Boards of Supervisors of the various counties throughout the State, and generally, with good success.

As a result of this effort, the number of children in the county poor-houses has steadily diminished each year since 1866 (then 1,222), so that at the close of 1874 these institutions contained only five hundred and ninety-three (593) of this class or 9.18 per cent of all the inmates. In the counties of New York and Kings, however, there has been a gradual increase in the number of pauper children each year for the past few years. The number in the children's department of the New York alms-houses at the close of 1874 was one thousand and sixty-four (1,064); in that of Kings county, four hundred and nine (409); total in both institutions, one thousand four hundred and seventy-three (1,473), or, as compared with the other inmates, 17.70 per cent.

In view of the fact that the poor-houses and alms houses of the State still contained a considerable number of intelligent children (notwithstanding the efforts thus made for their removal) who needed proper training and care to fit them for useful stations in life, the Board, in its last annual report, recommended the enactment of a law prohibiting, hereafter, the commitment of this class of children to poor-houses, and directing the removal of all such children then in these institutions. The act of the last Legislature, chapter 173 of the Laws of 1875, was framed in accordance with this recommendation, and is believed to be well designed for the purposes intended. This act, in brief, provided that on and after January first, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six, no child over

three and under sixteen years of age, of proper intelligence, and suited for family care, shall be committed or sent to any county poor-house of this State, and that all children of this class then in the county poor-houses shall, within the time named, be removed from such poor-houses and provided for in families, asylums, or other appropriate institutions. The law enjoined the boards of supervisors of the several counties to take such action in the matter as might be necessary to carry out its provisions.

This act received the prompt and hearty approval of the superintendents of the poor and other officers having the care of pauper children, and is now in general operation throughout the State. A gradual removal of the children from the poor-houses of the several counties was begun early in the past year, and the work is believed now to be mainly accomplished in these counties. The removal was effected in Kings county early in July last, and the building known as the Nursery or Children's Department of the alms-house of that county has been converted to other purposes. In New York county the removal was begun near the close of the year, and has since been wholly accomplished. The Commissioners of Charities and Correction have issued orders to discontinue the sending of children hereafter to the Randall's Island Nursery, the department of the New York city alms-house heretofore used for this class.

The time in which this law has been in operation is too brief to measure its results. There is no doubt, however, that, in the end, it will prove highly beneficial. The facilities for placing children in families and asylums, it is believed, are sufficient to reach every dependent child of the State, and are readily attainable before it shall become contaminated by association with adult paupers. The practice of committing such children to poor-houses, which heretofore existed, and charging officials and the benevolent with the work of their removal, was neither politic nor wise, and was attended by serious evils.

It is gratifying to add that this legislation, as to dependent children, has met with general approval in other States, and will probably be soon followed in many of them. A great need still exists in this State for better accommodations for the care of idiotic, epileptic, paralytic, and otherwise diseased children, many of whom now burden the poor-houses. The interests of humanity and the public welfare would be greatly promoted by the classification and proper care of these cases. The matter is one of great interest, and is earnestly commended to the attention of the Legislature.

IV. PROVISION FOR THE CHRONIC INSANE.

The act of 1865, creating the Willard Asylum, distinctly recognized the claims of the chronic insane to better care than had been before extended to them and required their surrender to State custody. The county authorities generally yielded a cheerful assent to this law, and transferred this class of insane to that institution, as room from time to time was provided. The number thus far sent to the asylum by the counties is nearly one thousand four hundred (1,400), and it has for some time been full.

Since the opening of this asylum, in 1869, new poor-houses have been erected in a number of counties, and extended alterations and repairs made in many others. In view of the requirements of the statute, before referred to, in reference to the transfer of the chronic insane to State custody, the authorities of these counties generally refrained from making any provision for this class, expecting to be relieved of their care by the State. The accommodations thus far provided have not been adequate, however, for this purpose, and many of the counties are now burdened with a considerable number of chronic insane with no facilities for their proper care.

The returns of the superintendents of the poor show that there were, at the close of the past year, in the various county

institutions (exclusive of the counties of New York and Kings), over fourteen hundred (1300) chronic insane. A few of the counties have very well arranged county asylums, and are therefore enabled to provide reasonably well for them. In other counties, for the reasons above stated, no provision exists for their care, and the authorities are consequently greatly embarrassed by their presence.

By the act of 1871, authority is conferred upon the Board to exempt any county of the State having suitable accommodations for the care of the chronic insane from the operation of the statute (generally known as the Willard Asylum act), relating to this class, and such exemptions have accordingly been granted to the following counties, viz.: Chautauqua, Chenango, Genesee, Jefferson, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Suffolk and Wyoming. These counties had generally made very good accommodations for the chronic insane before the establishment of the State asylum for their care, and this fact largely influenced the Board in arriving at conclusions in the matter. No such exemptions have been made during the past year, and the Board, for the reasons stated in its last annual report, do not think it desirable to encourage the county authorities generally to provide for their chronic insane, in the hope that the State will soon provide for them.

The asylums of the counties exempted have been visited and inspected during the past year, and they were, in most cases, found to be in satisfactory condition. In Chautauqua county a crowded condition of the asylum existed in the early part of the year, and serious evils occurred in its management. The attention of the Board was called to the subject by the visiting committee of the county, and a conference was thereupon had between a committee of the Board and the superintendents, and a committee of the board of supervisors. As the result an appropriation was made by the board of supervisors at their last annual session for the enlargement of the building, and the evils complained of are being remedied.

In view of the policy established by the act of 1865, as to

the chronic insane, it would seem but just that the counties now burdened with such large numbers of this class should be promptly relieved by the State. Unless this is speedily accomplished, these counties will be compelled to erect buildings for their care. The Board is of the opinion that it will be much better for the chronic insane, and less expensive to the counties, to provide for them in State institutions. We quote from our last annual report on this subject:

"This result (to provide for the chronic insane) may be attained by the establishment of two or three additional asylums in different parts of the State, on the plan and character of the Willard Asylum, or by engrafting the principles of that institution upon all the State asylums, now having the care of acute cases only. The latter plan is recommended by the Board as being much more economical for the State and well designed to meet the wants of this class of insane. It will require the erection of no expensive buildings for offices, and for the separate treatment of violent cases, as the asylums referred to already have these accommodations. It will insure to the chronic insane the best medical skill without additional expense, and also save the large sums now paid for the transfer of this class from the asylums for acute cases to the counties or the asylums for the chronic cases.

To carry out this plan will require only the erection of cheap detached buildings which will furnish suitable accommodations for the chronic insane at the lowest possible expense. Such buildings have been erected of brick at the Willard Asylum, at a cost of about \$500 for each inmate. These have been in use for a considerable time, and found to be wholly adequate and proper. When the other asylums thus provide for their chronic insane, and apply the rate for maintenance to counties, as charged at the Willard Asylum, that institution might be allowed to receive its proportion of acute cases. This would bring all the asylums under one plan, and result in great convenience and saving to the counties, and be advantageous to the State."

V. TRAMPS.

There is a large class of persons in the State, generally known as "Tramps," who, without visible means of support, travel from one locality to another, subsisting upon private charity and such aid as they may, from time to time, obtain from public officials. During the spring and summer months they usually infest the country, but as winter approaches,

they are more commonly found in and about the large towns and cities. They beset alike the private residence, the offices of the superintendents and overseers of the poor, and of the police, seeking lodgings and meals. This class, which seems to have increased with the growth of our population, from being little more than an annoyance, has, of late, become dangerous, threatening the peace and welfare of society, and also entailing large annual expenditures for their care and support from day to day.

In view of the growing and serious evils resulting from this condition of things, the Board, in the past year, determined to institute an inquiry regarding the number and condition of tramps applying for public aid during the six months commencing October 1, 1875, and also as to the kind and amount of relief furnished. Accordingly appropriate forms in blank were issued to the superintendents and overseers of the poor throughout the State, to the keepers of the poor-houses and alms-houses, and to the police of cities (excepting New York and Brooklyn) with the request to register and forward monthly to the office of the Board the names of all tramps applying for relief, their ages, places of birth, habits, education, civil condition and occupation, as far as the same could be ascertained, with full descriptions of their persons, the places from which they commenced "tramping," the length of time so engaged, the point where last aided, the place of destination, the reasons given why aid was required, and also as to the amount expended.

These forms were sent out in September last, and, with but few exceptions, the officers referred to, have promptly complied with the request of the Board. Returns have been received for the months of October and November, and are now coming in for the month of December. The Board has not been able, as yet, fully to analyze these returns, but the work will soon be accomplished, and the results communicated, if it be deemed desirable, to the Legislature.

The information already obtained regarding this class, shows that the greater portion of them are unmarried and generally able-bodied men, in the prime of life. Most of them are returned as uneducated, intemperate and classed by occupation as laborers. A small portion of them have had settled residences in this State, but the mass, it appears, are the waste population of this and other States and countries, and a considerable number of them are foreigners, not naturalized. It is generally claimed by these persons that they commenced "tramping" during the past year, but many of them admit they have led this mode of life for a long period. The reason usually assigned for asking relief is lack of employment; in fact the returns show that the plea for aid in nearly every instance is "want of work."

The Board, in the further prosecution of the inquiry, has endeavored to learn the number of tramps relieved in the State during the past year, and the expenditure for them from the public funds. In the absence of any proper system of registration of these persons as a separate class, by the overseers of the poor, it has not been possible to obtain full information on this subject. It is suggested that the overseers of the poor should be required hereafter to register the names of all tramps aided by them, and account annually to the superintendents for the expenditure. Returns for the past year, which in most cases, for the reasons above stated, are only partial, have been thus far received from thirty-five counties. The following is a statement of the number of acts of relief extended to tramps in these counties, as far as ascertained, and the expenditure for that purpose for the year ending November 30, 1875:

| OFFICERS GRANTING RELIEF. | Number of reliefs. | Amount expended for relief. |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Superintendents of the poor..... | 3,041 | \$4,078 41 |
| Overseers of the poor..... | 64,892 | 53,132 45 |
| Keepers of poor-houses. | 5,567 | 4,077 55 |
| Total..... | 73,500 | \$61,288 41 |

Estimating for the other counties, according to the best information at hand, it is thought that over two hundred thousand (200,000) acts of relief are annually bestowed on tramps by public officials in this State at an expenditure of nearly \$200,000. Of course the number of persons thus relieved is only a fraction of this number of acts of relief, as the same person is repeatedly aided as he passes from one locality to another. This aid is generally granted without any equivalent in return; yet, in most cases, the persons thus relieved are able by their labor to provide for themselves. In the end many of them wholly break down, become inmates of poor-houses, and continue to be public burdens through life. If we add to this the aid extended to these persons by citizens and organized benevolence, the extent of the burden and the evils attending it become more apparent.

To correct the matter, a radical change in the manner of dealing with this class is believed to be necessary. A more careful scrutiny than heretofore as to the condition of all transient persons applying for aid, should be made by the public officials. The enfeebled and disabled may be committed to the various State alms-houses, and be provided for under the act regarding State paupers, or be sent to the care of friends, or places of legal settlement in other States or countries. In the case of the able-bodied, no aid should be extended to them except upon their rendering an equivalent therefor, by their labor. It may not always be within the power of the officers to make such labor remunerative to any considerable extent, but in all cases before relief is furnished it should be stipulated that a certain amount of work shall be performed in return therefor, and if the person, after being aided, refuses to perform the work, he should be subject to summary arrest by the superintendent or overseer of the poor, and be proceeded against under the law regarding vagrancy.

Under the increased powers conferred upon boards of supervisors by the last legislature (chapter 482 of the Laws of 1875), the subject is largely within the control of the several counties,

and it only needs general action in the matter greatly to lessen the evils complained of. The enactment of a suitable law conferring additional powers upon superintendents and overseers of the poor and defining their duties as to arresting and examining the class of persons referred to, is probably necessary, and it may be advisable also, to authorize boards of supervisors to erect and maintain county or district work-houses in certain cases. The employment of this class has been resorted to in several counties during the past year, and it is claimed that the number of tramps has, in consequence, largely diminished in those counties. When "tramps" throughout the State are obliged to work, and to render an equivalent by their labor for the aid they receive, it is believed that they will take measures to provide for themselves, preferring to work on their own account rather than to labor, under compulsion, for the public.

VI. STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL TABLES.

The several statistical and financial tables appended to this report, and before referred to, are as follows:

Tables Nos. 1 to 5, inclusive, relate to the several State institutions.

The returns regarding pauperism in the several counties are given in tables Nos. 6 to 15, inclusive.

The value of the property and indebtedness of orphan asylums and homes for the friendless, their receipts and expenditures for the past fiscal year, and the number of persons supported in them during the year will be found in tables Nos. 16, 17, 18 and 19.

Tables Nos. 20, 21, 22 and 23 show the value of the property of hospitals and their indebtedness, also their receipts and disbursements for the past fiscal year and the number of patients treated in them during the year.

The value of the property held by dispensaries, with their indebtedness and receipts and expenditures for the last fiscal year, and also the number of beneficiary patients treated by them during the year, are shown in tables Nos. 24, 25, 26 and 27.

These tables have been prepared with great care, and they contain much interesting and valuable information relating to these several classes of institutions to which they respectively refer, and to which attention is invited.

VII. APPENDED PAPERS.

The following papers are appended to this report :

1. Relating to pauper children in New York county by Commissioner Letchworth.

2. Relating to the dispensary system for the treatment of the sick and its value in connection with the administration of public and private charity by Commissioner Roosevelt.

3. On out-door relief, as administered in the county of New York, by the State Charities Aid Association.

4. The bearing of the sanitary condition of towns, and the crowding of population into filthy, ill-ventilated and badly drained tenement houses, upon the increase of pauperism by A. N. Bell, M. D., under the direction of Commissioners Hoguet and Low.

5. Hospitals for the sick and insane, by Commissioners Anderson and Devereux, to which is appended a report upon the management of the insane in Great Britain, by H. B. Wilbur, M. D.

6. Relating to orphan asylums, reformatories, industrial schools and other institutions of the State having the custody and care of children, by Commissioner Letchworth.

These several papers are communicated to the Legislature on account of the important information and views they contain, without any action having been taken by the Board in regard to them.

All which is respectfully submitted.

By order of the Board.

JOHN V. L. PRUYN,

President of the Board.

CHARLES S. HOYT,

Secretary of the Board.

Dated ALBANY, *January 14, 1876.*

TABLES
APPENDED TO THE REPORT.

TABLE I.

List of the several State institutions, their location, date of opening, name and date of appointment of the Superintendent, and the names of the officers of the Board of trustees or managers.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Location. | Date of opening. | Superintendent. | Date of appointment. | Officers of the board of trustees or managers. |
|---|------------------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------|--|
| New York State Lunatic Asylum..... | Utica..... | 1843..... | Dr. John P. Gray.... | July 1, 1854 | President, Samuel Campbell. Secretary, Theodore Pomeroy. Treasurer, Thomas W. Seward. |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane..... | Willard .. | 1869..... | Dr. John B. Chaplin.. | April 1, 1869 | President, S. G. Hadley. Secretary, S. R. Wells. Treasurer, James B. Thomas. |
| Hudson River State Hospital..... | Poughkeepsie.. | 1871..... | Dr. J. M. Cleveland.. | March 23, 1867. | President, Abiah W. Palmer. Secretary and Treasurer, James H. Weeks. |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane | Buffalo..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | President, James P. White. Secretary, W. F. Rogers. |
| State Homœopathic Asylum for the Insane..... | Middletown ... | ..... | Dr. H. R. Stiles.... | ..... | Treasurer, Henry Martin. President, Fletcher Harper, Jr. |
| New York Institution for the Blind..... | New York city, | 1832..... | William B. Walt..... | Oct. 1, 1853 | Secretary, M. D. Stivers. Treasurer, U. I. Hayes. President, Augustus Schell. |
| New York State Institution for the Blind..... | Batavia | 1868..... | Mrs. A. D. Lord | June 14, 1875 | Secretary, T. Bailey Myers. Treasurer, William Whitewright. President, L. A. Hayward. |
| New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb... | New York city, | 1818..... | Isaac L. Peet, Prin... Dr. Wm. Porter, Sup. | Sept. 1, 1867 | Secretary, L. C. McIntyre. Treasurer, I. S. Stewart. President, William Adams. |
| New York Asylum for Idiots..... | Syracuse. | 1851..... | Dr. H. B. Wilbur.... | Oct. —, 1851 | Secretary, Thacher M. Adams. Treasurer, Joseph W. Patterson. President, James H. Titus. |
| New York State Inebriate Asylum | Binghamton... | 1894..... | Dr. Lyman Congdon, | Sept. 1, 1873 | Secretary and Treasurer, Allen Monroe. President, Willard Parker. |
| New York House of Refuge | Randall's Isl'd, New York city. | 1832..... | Israel C. Jones..... | April —, 1863 | Secretary, Charles Van Benthuyssen. Treasurer, George Pratt. President, Edgar Ketchum. |
| Western House of Refuge..... | Rochester | 1849 ... | Levi S. Fulton..... | Feb. 15, 1870 | Secretary, Andrew Warner. Treasurer, Nathaniel Jarvis, Jr. President, George J. Whitney. Secretary and Treasurer, William C. Rowley. |

TABLE 2.
Showing the capacity and cost of the buildings of the several State Institutions.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Capacity. | Cost of buildings. | Cost per inmate. |
|--|-----------|--------------------|------------------|
| New York State Lunatic Asylum | 600 | \$ 637,065 58 | \$1,062 |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane | 950 | + 797,153 79 | † 839 |
| Hudson River State Hospital for the Insane | 300 | \$ 700,000 00 | ..... |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane ..... | ..... | \$ 750,559 03 | ..... |
| State Homeopathic Asylum for the Insane ..... | ..... | \$ 333,396 50 | ..... |
| New York Institution for the Blind | 225 | 102,032 22 | 854 |
| New York State Institution for the Blind | 150 | 254,500 00 | 1,666 |
| New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb | 550 | 364,000 00 | 661 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots | 220 | 116,000 00 | 527 |
| New York State Inebriate Asylum | † 300 | 500,000 00 | 2,500 |
| New York House of Refuge | 1,000 | 500,000 00 | 500 |
| Western House of Refuge | 600 | 250,000 00 | 416 |
| Total | 4,005 | \$5,429,407 75 | ..... |

* This includes \$144,957.90 expended in remodeling the original buildings, and the introduction of steam-heating and forced ventilation.

† Includes all buildings and modifications, water-works, gas, sewerage, docks, and expenditures for all purposes, except land, furniture, farm stock and implements.

‡ Includes main building, farm-buildings, the stable, garden-buildings, the office-building, the cottage, the ice-houses, the boiler-house, the chimney, the fan-house, the sluiceway, the shelter-houses, the yard walls, the wharf, and the bridge.

\$ Total expenditures for buildings and improvements to January 1, 1876.

† Includes the north wing, nearly completed.

TABLE 3.
Showing the total and classified valuation, as per cost, of the State Institutions at the close of their respective statistical years in 1875.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Fiscal year closes. | REAL ESTATE. | | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|--------------------|
| | | LAND. | | Buildings. | Total real estate. |
| | | No. of acres. | Value. | | |
| New York State Lunatic Asylum..... | November 30..... | 200 | * \$24,878 84 | \$657,065 58 | \$681,944 42 |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane..... | November 30..... | 490 | 50,000 00 | 707,158 79 | 847,158 79 |
| Hudson River State Hospital..... | November 30..... | 333 | + 90,000 00 | 709,695 63 | 799,695 63 |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane..... | December 31..... | 203 | # 100,000 00 | 750,569 03 | 850,569 03 |
| State Homeopathic Asylum for the Insane..... | November 30..... | 200 | 42,117 16 | 338,398 50 | 400,513 66 |
| New York Institution for the Blind..... | September 30..... | 33 | 150,000 00 | \$ 207,052 22 | 357,052 22 |
| New York State Institution for the Blind..... | September 30..... | 66 | 140,000 00 | 254,500 00 | 294,500 00 |
| New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb..... | September 30..... | 28 | 86,000 00 | 364,000 00 | 450,000 00 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots..... | September 30..... | 55 | ¥ 22,300 00 | 116,000 00 | 138,300 00 |
| New York State Inebriate Asylum .. | December 31..... | ** 380 | 38,000 00 | ¥ 500,000 00 | 538,000 00 |
| New York House of Refuge..... | December 31..... | 37 | 36,000 00 | 500,000 00 | 536,000 00 |
| Western House of Refuge..... | December 31..... | 42 | ## 4,200 00 | 165,150 00 | 169,350 00 |
| Total..... | ..... | 2,067 | \$682,496 00 | \$5,359,617 75 | \$6,042,113 75 |

* Of this amount, \$8,000 were donated by citizens of Utica.

+ Donated by the citizens of Dutchess county, \$35,000; appropriated by the State, \$5,000.

¥ Presented to the State by the city of Buffalo.

Includes the lots on Ninth avenue on which the buildings are situated.

** Presented to the State by the village of Batavia.

¥ Of this amount \$7,500 were contributed by the city of Syracuse.

++ Two hundred and fifty acres, the gift of the city of Binghamton, about \$300,000.

¥ The buildings have been twice partially destroyed by fire, at a loss of about \$300,000.

** Of this sum, \$1,300 were contributed by citizens of Rochester.

TABLE 3 — (Concluded).

| INSTITUTIONS. | PERSONAL ESTATE. | | | | | | | |
|---|------------------|----------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| | Furniture. | Farm stock and implements. | Farm produce. | General supplies. | Miscellaneous articles. | Funds and investments. | Total personal estate. | Total valuation. |
| New York State Lunatic Asylum..... | \$60,000 00 | \$10,000 00 | \$4,000 00 | \$6,000 00 | \$2,000 00 | ..... | \$82,000 00 | \$713,944 42 |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane..... | 40,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 7,500 00 | 6,500 00 | 1,500 00 | ..... | 65,500 00 | 912,658 79 |
| Hudson River State Hospital..... | 23,512 89 | 5,176 21 | 7,923 45 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 36,614 55 | 826,310 18 |
| State Hospital for the Insane..... | 15,963 65 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 850,569 63 |
| State Homoeopathic Asylum for the Insane..... | 19,271 80 | ..... | ..... | 2,147 23 | ..... | ..... | 15,963 97 | 416,477 61 |
| New York State Institution for the Blind..... | 30,000 00 | 2,098 00 | 694 00 | ..... | 2,538 67 | \$19,000 00 | 42,917 70 | 399,969 92 |
| New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb..... | 30,000 00 | 600 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 32,702 00 | 327,202 00 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots..... | 13,000 00 | 1,800 00 | 1,150 00 | 1,100 00 | ..... | 110,000 00 | 146,600 00 | 506,690 00 |
| New York State Insane Asylum..... | 15,000 00 | 1,500 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17,050 00 | 155,350 00 |
| New York House of Refuge..... | 36,600 00 | 500 00 | 1,000 00 | 2,500 00 | ..... | 7,000 00 | 16,500 00 | 554,800 00 |
| Western House of Refuge..... | 22,150 00 | 1,750 00 | 4,355 63 | 4,250 00 | ..... | ..... | 47,000 00 | 582,000 00 |
| Total..... | \$304,558 64 | \$33,424 21 | \$26,735 08 | \$32,407 23 | \$6,038 67 | \$142,000 00 | \$535,353 83 | \$6,577,407 58 |

TABLE 4.
Showing the Receipts of the State Institutions for the year 1875.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Cash on hand at the commencement of the year. | FROM THE STATE. | | | | | Total from the state. |
|---|---|---------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | For salaries of officers. | From special appropriations. | From deficiency appropriations. | From unexpended appropriations of former years. | From the general appropriation. | |
| New York State Lunatic Asylum..... | \$9,514 60 | \$15,000 00 | \$29,847 60 | ..... | \$34,003 32 | ..... | \$75,851 52 |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane..... | 1,021 79 | 10,350 00 | 115,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 125,350 00 |
| Hudson River State Hospital..... | ..... | 6,770 00 | 877 75 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7,647 75 |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| State Homeopathic Asylum for the Insane..... | 2,147 86 | 2,500 00 | 138,683 59 | ..... | ..... | \$43,899 32 | 141,183 59 |
| New York State Institution for the Blind..... | 3,625 82 | ..... | 9,500 00 | ..... | 2,500 00 | 40,000 00 | 43,899 32 |
| New York State Institution for the Blind..... | 1,138 15 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 95,761 63 | 95,761 63 |
| New York State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb..... | ..... | ..... | 1,500 00 | ..... | ..... | 36,000 00 | 37,500 00 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots..... | ..... | 6,000 00 | 30,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6,000 00 |
| New York State Inebriate Asylum..... | ..... | ..... | 10,000 00 | \$10,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 40,000 00 | 78,000 00 |
| New York House of Refuge..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 40,000 00 | 60,000 00 |
| Western House of Refuge..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total..... | \$17,448 22 | \$40,620 00 | \$332,408 95 | \$10,000 00 | \$44,503 92 | \$295,660 95 | \$723,193 82 |

TABLE 4. — *Concluded.*

| INSTITUTIONS. | From sales of farm and garden pro- duce. | From labor of inmates. | From cities, counties and towns. | From Ind- viduals for the support of inmates. | From Inter- ests and divi- dends on In- vestments. | From loans. | From all other sources. | Total receipts. |
|---|---|---------------------------|--|--|---|-------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| New York State Lunatic Asylum..... | \$5,028 00 | ..... | \$101,823 98 | \$74,200 11 | ..... | ..... | ..... | \$328,008 21 |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane..... | ..... | ..... | 162,768 30 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 231,174 57 |
| Hudson River State Hospital..... | 1,577 20 | ..... | 47,600 40 | 10,388 58 | ..... | ..... | \$2,038 48 | 67,271 75 |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane..... | 79 81 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| State Homeopathic Asylum for the Insane..... | ..... | ..... | 4,310 20 | 13,258 52 | ..... | ..... | 1,201 01 | 162,341 89 |
| New York State Institution for the Blind..... | ..... | ..... | 6,100 00 | 300 00 | \$1,330 00 | ..... | 36,620 63 | 62,185 80 |
| New York State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb..... | 562 76 | \$3,584 77 | 4,565 94 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 61 56 | 61,931 30 |
| New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb..... | ..... | ..... | 34,889 49 | 1,540 83 | 5,498 62 | ..... | 23,468 72 | 101,159 34 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots..... | ..... | ..... | 2,508 95 | 5,904 89 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 45,911 84 |
| New York State Insane Asylum..... | 510 73 | ..... | 2,653 50 | 32,545 26 | ..... | ..... | 240 00 | 41,949 49 |
| New York House of Refuge..... | ..... | 11,729 67 | ..... | ..... | 480 00 | ..... | 26,107 84 | 116,387 51 |
| Western House of Refuge..... | 534 58 | 12,274 92 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 425 87 | 73,235 65 |
| Total | \$8,321 98 | \$27,589 36 | \$367,376 76 | \$138,226 05 | \$7,318 62 | ..... | \$30,693 04 | \$1,362,719 03 |

TABLE 5.
Showing the expenditures of the State Institutions for the year 1875, the average number of inmates, and the weekly cost of support.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Salaries of officers, wages and labor. | Provisions and supplies. | Clothing. | Fuel and lights. | Medicines and medical supplies. | Furniture, beds and bedding. | Transportation and traveling expenses. | Ordinary repairs. |
|--|--|--------------------------|-------------|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|--|-------------------|
| New York State Lunatic Asylum | \$57,471 57 | \$70,302 18 | \$8,646 20 | \$17,749 06 | \$6,353 43 | \$9,039 41 | ..... | ..... |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane | 57,013 97 | 57,723 86 | 9,535 84 | 21, 07 10 | 1,288 73 | 12,293 91 | ..... | ..... |
| Hudson River State Hospital | 32,176 65 | 24,358 14 | 3,078 63 | 9,202 73 | 1,673 21 | 3,046 07 | \$255 43 | \$296 15 |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane | 18,430 81 | 13,412 16 | 678 14 | 5,011 41 | 403 32 | 4,790 53 | 588 52 | 576 81 |
| State Homeopathic Asylum for the Insane | 21,374 96 | 17,038 05 | 6,612 44 | 4,943 15 | 39 88 | 2,508 97 | 256 91 | 3,685 17 |
| New York Institution for the Blind | 14,170 88 | 12,015 62 | 3,109 50 | 4,472 65 | 82 78 | 284 56 | 13 74 | 2,000 00 |
| New York State Institution for the Blind | 43,651 76 | 42,501 17 | 13,295 08 | 6,973 46 | 1,193 47 | 4,618 13 | 331 03 | 9,875 17 |
| New York Institution for the Deaf and Dumb | 13,801 61 | 11,712 02 | 2,862 53 | 5,052 69 | 315 91 | 3,140 09 | 147 44 | 3,716 55 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots | 6,082 80 | 13,898 24 | ..... | 3,910 02 | 522 84 | 1,775 36 | ..... | ..... |
| New York State Inebriate Asylum | 36,061 79 | 45,516 21 | 12,846 57 | 6,412 87 | 166 14 | 5,352 59 | 310 54 | 2,307 69 |
| New York House of Refuge | 19,022 58 | 18,427 63 | 7,183 59 | 7,287 27 | 434 02 | 1,572 31 | ..... | 2,676 37 |
| Western House of Refuge ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total | \$319,259 08 | \$529,904 28 | \$97,848 52 | \$92,622 41 | \$12,468 73 | \$48,421 98 | \$1,873 66 | \$25,183 91 |

TABLE 5 — (Continued).

| INSTITUTIONS. | Expenses of trustees or managers. | All other ordinary expenses. | Total ordinary expenditures. | Buildings and improvements. | Extraordinary repairs. | All other extraordinary expenses. | Total extraordinary expenditures. | Total expenditures. | Cash on hand at the close of the year. |
|---|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--|
| New York State Lunatic Asylum..... | ..... | \$13,453 78 | \$183,017 83 | \$23,809 88 | ..... | \$5,579 45 | \$23,889 33 | \$215,407 28 | \$51,198 95 |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane..... | ..... | 11,053 62 | 160,916 03 | 115,921 43 | ..... | ..... | 115,921 43 | 285,837 46 | 5,337 11 |
| Hudson River State Hospital..... | \$74 00 | 8,821 80 | 82,932 81 | ..... | \$928 29 | ..... | ..... | 83,861 10 | ..... |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane..... | 238 40 | 5,065 14 | 50,125 29 | 107,920 54 | 806 90 | ..... | 108,727 44 | 158,852 73 | 3,489 16 |
| State Homeopathic Asylum for the Insane..... | ..... | 6,378 57 | 62,836 10 | ..... | ..... | 20,663 09 | 20,663 09 | 83,498 76 | 8,087 04 |
| New York Institution for the Blind..... | ..... | 1,815 25 | 37,964 98 | 7,493 27 | ..... | 2,412 15 | 9,905 42 | 47,870 40 | 14,098 84 |
| New York State Institution for the Deaf & Dumb..... | ..... | 13,623 93 | 136,033 25 | 4,607 29 | ..... | 20,126 87 | 24,734 16 | 160,767 41 | 391 93 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots..... | 155 50 | 3,072 86 | 44,007 20 | 1,500 00 | ..... | ..... | 1,500 00 | 45,507 20 | 404 64 |
| New York State Inebriate Asylum..... | ..... | 5,567 49 | 31,866 75 | ..... | ..... | 3,102 17 | 3,102 17 | 34,968 92 | 6,865 67 |
| New York House of Refuge..... | ..... | 4,354 55 | 113,228 95 | 1,716 99 | ..... | 3,535 53 | 5,252 52 | 118,581 47 | ..... |
| Western House of Refuge..... | 500 00 | 7,662 60 | 64,796 37 | ..... | 12,125 08 | ..... | 12,125 08 | 77,921 45 | ..... |
| Total.. | \$907 90 | \$81,034 59 | \$976,835 66 | \$295,909 40 | \$14,800 27 | \$55,418 83 | \$336,248 50 | \$1,313,084 16 | \$90,443 34 |

TABLE 5 — (Concluded).

| INSTITUTIONS. | RECAPITULATION. | | | Current expenses. | Average No. of inmates. | Average weekly cost of support. |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Ordinary expenditures. | Extraordinary expenditures. | Total expenditures. | | | |
| New York State Lunatic Asylum..... | \$183,017 83 | \$22,389 33 | \$215,407 26 | *\$170,345 73 | 505 | \$5.55 |
| Willard Asylum for the Insane..... | 169,916 03 | 115,921 43 | 285,837 46 | †144,047 29 | 932 | 2.97 |
| Hudson River State Hospital..... | 83,832 81 | 928 29 | 84,761 10 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Buffalo State Asylum for the Insane..... | ..... | 108,727 44 | 108,727 44 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| State Hospital for the Insane..... | 50,125 29 | 20,062 06 | 70,187 35 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| New York State Institution for the Blind..... | 62,896 10 | 9,263 42 | 72,159 52 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| New York State Institution for the Deaf and Dumb..... | 37,864 98 | ..... | 37,864 98 | ..... | 153 | 5.83 |
| New York Asylum for Idiots..... | 136,033 55 | 24,704 16 | 160,737 71 | ..... | 155 | 4.80 |
| New York Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb..... | 44,007 20 | 1,969 10 | 45,976 30 | ..... | 515 | 5.50 |
| New York State Insane Asylum..... | 31,896 73 | 3,062 17 | 34,958 90 | ..... | 1210 | 3.91 |
| New York House of Refuge..... | 113,325 95 | 5,252 32 | 118,578 27 | ..... | 75 | 7.43 |
| Western House of Refuge..... | 64,796 37 | 13,125 08 | 77,921 45 | ..\$113,328 95 | 820 | 2.66 |
| Total..... | \$976,835 06 | \$366,248 60 | \$1,343,083 66 | \$64,706 37 | 404 | 3.08 |

* Clothing and certain miscellaneous expenses, which are advances to patients, are not included in current expenses.

† Does not include clothing, or salaries of resident officers.

‡ Clothing not included.

\$ Includes clothing.

! Fifty weeks each.

TABLE 6.

Showing the number of persons supported and temporarily relieved, and the changes in the county poor-houses during the year ending November 30, 1875.

| COUNTIES. | Number in the poor-houses Dec. 1, 1874. | Received during the year. | Born in the poor-houses. | Number supported. | Number temporarily relieved. | Total supported and relieved. |
|--------------------|---|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Albany | 305 | 270 | 40 | 615 | ..... | 615 |
| Allegany | 64 | 24 | 5 | 93 | ..... | 323 |
| Broome | 104 | 118 | 2 | 224 | 3,312 | 3,536 |
| Cattaraugus | 91 | 125 | 4 | 220 | 3,336 | 3,556 |
| Cayuga | 93 | 413 | 1 | 507 | 3,583 | 4,090 |
| Chautauqua | 180 | 246 | 1 | 427 | 2,245 | 2,672 |
| Chemung | 41 | 167 | 4 | 212 | ..... | 212 |
| Chenango | 85 | 136 | ..... | 221 | 704 | 1,015 |
| Clinton | 71 | 203 | 2 | 276 | 660 | 936 |
| Columbia | 135 | 224 | 4 | 363 | 1,221 | 1,584 |
| Cortland | 74 | 40 | ..... | 114 | 376 | 490 |
| Delaware | 44 | 63 | 1 | 108 | 686 | 794 |
| Dutchess | 84 | 607 | 3 | 694 | 48 | 742 |
| Erie | 508 | 1,515 | 43 | 2,456 | 10,000 | 12,456 |
| Essex | 89 | 589 | 2 | 680 | 1,234 | 1,914 |
| Franklin | 51 | 42 | ..... | 93 | 447 | 540 |
| Fulton | 75 | 65 | 4 | 144 | ..... | 144 |
| Genesee | 62 | 208 | 3 | 273 | 2,238 | 2,511 |
| Greene | 134 | 463 | 4 | 601 | 6,798 | 7,399 |
| *Hamilton ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Herkimer | 93 | 149 | 1 | 243 | 32 | 275 |
| Jefferson | 159 | 129 | 5 | 293 | 891 | 1,184 |
| Lewis | 62 | 40 | ..... | 102 | 120 | 222 |
| Livingston | 144 | 276 | 3 | 423 | 170 | 593 |
| Madison | 121 | 266 | 6 | 393 | ..... | 393 |
| Monroe | 184 | 691 | 30 | 905 | 6,430 | 7,335 |
| Montgomery ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Niagara | 172 | 356 | 6 | 534 | 3,828 | 4,362 |
| Oneida | 307 | 514 | 4 | 825 | 2,874 | 3,699 |
| Onondaga | 201 | 383 | 2 | 586 | 4,182 | 4,768 |
| Ontario | 113 | 257 | 5 | 375 | 2,498 | 2,873 |
| Orange | 185 | 1,102 | 9 | 1,296 | 44 | 1,340 |
| Orleans | 87 | 370 | 2 | 459 | 1,095 | 1,554 |
| Oswego | 82 | 103 | ..... | 185 | 1,791 | 1,976 |
| Otsego | 86 | 94 | 4 | 184 | 642 | 826 |
| Putnam | 39 | 208 | ..... | 247 | 208 | 455 |
| Queens | 93 | 1,284 | 1 | 1,378 | 11,441 | 12,819 |
| Rensselaer | 182 | 949 | 9 | 1,140 | 587 | 1,727 |
| Richmond | 124 | 105 | 2 | 231 | 1,655 | 1,886 |
| Rockland ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Lawrence | 122 | 132 | 6 | 260 | 2,219 | 2,479 |
| Saratoga | 146 | 154 | ..... | 300 | 624 | 924 |
| Schenectady | 60 | 40 | ..... | 100 | 3,473 | 3,573 |
| Schoharie | 60 | 61 | ..... | 121 | 60 | 181 |
| *Schuyler ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 318 | 318 |
| Seneca | 55 | 249 | 1 | 305 | 264 | 569 |
| Steuben | 98 | 268 | 3 | 369 | 1,374 | 1,743 |
| Suffolk | 115 | 126 | 8 | 249 | 743 | 992 |
| Sullivan | 78 | 61 | 2 | 141 | 125 | 266 |
| Tioga | 48 | 669 | ..... | 717 | 930 | 1,647 |
| Tompkins | 37 | 141 | 2 | 180 | 838 | 1,018 |
| Ulster | 123 | 455 | 7 | 585 | ..... | 585 |
| Warren | 52 | 47 | 3 | 102 | 15 | 117 |
| Washington | 110 | 215 | 3 | 328 | ..... | 328 |
| Wayne | 74 | 754 | 2 | 830 | 740 | 1,570 |
| Westchester | 269 | 2,735 | 6 | 3,010 | 34 | 3,044 |
| Wyoming | 56 | 50 | ..... | 106 | 243 | 349 |
| Yates | 36 | 108 | ..... | 144 | 736 | 880 |
| Total | 6,353 | 19,359 | 255 | 25,967 | 88,442 | 114,409 |

* No poor-house.

TABLE 6. — (Concluded.)

| COUNTIES. | Discharged. | Bound out. | Absconded. | Died. | REMAINING NOV. 30, 1875. | | |
|-------------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------|--------------------------|----------|--------|
| | | | | | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Albany..... | 154 | .... | 40 | 78 | 140 | 203 | 343 |
| Allegany..... | 15 | 6 | 2 | 7 | 30 | 33 | 63 |
| Broome..... | 115 | 3 | 3 | 13 | 48 | 42 | 90 |
| Cattaraugus..... | 107 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 52 | 39 | 91 |
| Cayuga..... | 403 | .... | 12 | 14 | 42 | 36 | 78 |
| Chautauqua..... | 216 | 1 | 9 | 26 | 102 | 73 | 175 |
| Chemung..... | 146 | .... | 15 | 7 | 31 | 13 | 44 |
| Chenango..... | 35 | .... | 71 | 20 | 49 | 46 | 95 |
| Clinton..... | 198 | 2 | ... | 11 | 43 | 22 | 65 |
| Columbia..... | 138 | 4 | .... | 41 | 134 | 46 | 180 |
| Cortland..... | 32 | 1 | .... | 9 | 34 | 38 | 72 |
| Delaware..... | 64 | 1 | .... | 9 | 18 | 16 | 34 |
| Dutchess..... | 555 | 1 | .... | 20 | 67 | 51 | 118 |
| Erie..... | 1,564 | 30 | 130 | 127 | 403 | 202 | 605 |
| Essex..... | 548 | 5 | 5 | 7 | 44 | 71 | 115 |
| Franklin..... | 25 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 23 | 28 | 51 |
| Fulton..... | 68 | 2 | ... | 12 | 29 | 33 | 62 |
| Genesee..... | 186 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 42 | 34 | 76 |
| Greene..... | 463 | .... | 2 | 23 | 65 | 48 | 113 |
| Hamilton..... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Herkimer..... | 125 | 16 | .... | 14 | 49 | 39 | 88 |
| Jefferson..... | 105 | 2 | 11 | 20 | 63 | 92 | 155 |
| Lewis..... | 33 | 4 | .... | 11 | 29 | 25 | 54 |
| Livingston..... | 249 | 4 | .... | 23 | 89 | 58 | 147 |
| Madison..... | 236 | 14 | 6 | 19 | 70 | 48 | 118 |
| Monroe..... | 653 | 8 | .... | 60 | 102 | 82 | 184 |
| Montgomery..... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Niagara..... | 372 | 6 | 11 | 12 | 90 | 43 | 133 |
| Oneida..... | 449 | 8 | 22 | 43 | 197 | 106 | 303 |
| Onondaga..... | 296 | 2 | 18 | 42 | 116 | 112 | 228 |
| Ontario..... | 224 | 6 | 32 | 12 | 64 | 37 | 101 |
| Orange..... | 1,084 | .... | .... | 33 | 111 | 68 | 179 |
| Orleans..... | 340 | 6 | 25 | 7 | 48 | 33 | 81 |
| Oswego..... | 83 | .... | 2 | 12 | 43 | 45 | 88 |
| Otsego..... | 47 | 9 | 30 | 12 | 46 | 40 | 86 |
| Putnam..... | 208 | .... | .... | 5 | 22 | 12 | 34 |
| Queens..... | 1,140 | .... | 7 | 8 | 209 | 14 | 223 |
| Rensselaer..... | 948 | .... | 3 | 17 | 117 | 55 | 172 |
| Richmond..... | 91 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 54 | 70 | 124 |
| Rockland..... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| St. Lawrence..... | 88 | 13 | 7 | 17 | 55 | 80 | 135 |
| Saratoga..... | 122 | 3 | 15 | 14 | 89 | 57 | 146 |
| Schenectady..... | 36 | .... | .... | 12 | 20 | 32 | 52 |
| Schoharie..... | 46 | .... | 1 | 14 | 20 | 40 | 60 |
| Schuyler..... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Seneca..... | 244 | .... | 13 | 7 | 30 | 11 | 41 |
| Steuben..... | 244 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 70 | 37 | 107 |
| Suffolk..... | 94 | 2 | 11 | 14 | 67 | 61 | 128 |
| Sullivan..... | 23 | .... | 4 | 4 | 63 | 47 | 110 |
| Tioga..... | 653 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 31 | 22 | 53 |
| Tompkins..... | 129 | ... | 4 | 10 | 25 | 12 | 37 |
| Ulster..... | 407 | 8 | 4 | 17 | 98 | 51 | 149 |
| Warren..... | 32 | .... | .... | 3 | 38 | 29 | 67 |
| Washington..... | 183 | 1 | 12 | 20 | 62 | 50 | 112 |
| Wayne..... | 725 | 2 | .... | 20 | 47 | 36 | 83 |
| Westchester..... | 2,712 | 22 | 29 | 53 | 122 | 67 | 189 |
| Wyoming..... | 29 | .... | 2 | 6 | 36 | 33 | 69 |
| Yates..... | 24 | .... | 75 | 3 | 29 | 13 | 42 |
| Total..... | 17,505 | 211 | 657 | 1,045 | 3,817 | 2,731 | 6,548 |

TABLE 7.

Showing the number of insane, idiots, epileptics, blind, deaf mutes, and children, in the county poor-houses, November 30, 1875.

| COUNTIES. | Insane. | Idiots. | Epileptics. | Blind | Deaf mutes. | Children. |
|-------------------|---------|---------|-------------|-------|-------------|-----------|
| Albany..... | 67 | 12 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 44 |
| Allegany..... | 8 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| Broome..... | 8 | 15 | .. | 12 | .. | 6 |
| Cattaraugus..... | 40 | 6 | .. | 12 | .. | 9 |
| Cayuga..... | 21 | 18 | 3 | 12 | .. | 5 |
| Chautauqua..... | 63 | 9 | 6 | 12 | 12 | 5 |
| Chemung..... | 2 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Chenango..... | 29 | 5 | 5 | 34 | .. | 11 |
| Clinton..... | 7 | 18 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Columbia..... | 9 | 7 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Cortland..... | 20 | 12 | 3 | 3 | .. | 1 |
| Delaware..... | 5 | 7 | 3 | .. | 1 | 1 |
| Dutchess..... | 28 | 6 | 1 | 3 | .. | 21 |
| Erie..... | 200 | 14 | 7 | 7 | 3 | .. |
| Essex..... | 12 | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 18 |
| Franklin..... | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Fulton..... | 6 | 4 | .. | 12 | .. | 11 |
| Genesee..... | 26 | 6 | 4 | 1 | .. | 3 |
| Greene..... | 9 | 12 | 5 | 12 | 2 | 23 |
| Hamilton..... | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Herkimer..... | 14 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 3 |
| Jefferson..... | 65 | 9 | 6 | 4 | .. | 10 |
| Lewis..... | 19 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| Livingston..... | 43 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 17 |
| Madison..... | 23 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | 6 |
| Monroe..... | 23 | 8 | 4 | 7 | .. | 3 |
| Montgomery..... | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Niagara..... | 6 | 3 | 2 | .. | .. | 23 |
| Oneida..... | 163 | 4 | 12 | 14 | 1 | 7 |
| Onondaga..... | 98 | 9 | 5 | 7 | .. | 3 |
| Ontario..... | 6 | 12 | 4 | 12 | 1 | 9 |
| Orange..... | 19 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 27 |
| Orleans..... | 6 | 4 | 5 | 1 | .. | 3 |
| Oswego..... | 36 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 |
| Otsego..... | 13 | 25 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. |
| Putnam..... | 3 | 6 | .. | 12 | .. | 13 |
| Queens..... | 9 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 12 |
| Rensselaer..... | 23 | 15 | .. | 2 | 2 | 10 |
| Richmond..... | 14 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 24 |
| Rockland..... | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| St. Lawrence..... | 22 | 2 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 10 |
| Saratoga..... | 27 | 13 | .. | 4 | .. | 3 |
| Schenectady..... | 27 | 8 | .. | 6 | .. | 11 |
| Schoharie..... | 7 | 8 | .. | 3 | .. | 17 |
| Schuyler..... | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Seneca..... | 2 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Steuben..... | 11 | 8 | 6 | 3 | .. | 10 |
| Suffolk..... | 55 | .. | 5 | 5 | .. | 20 |
| Sullivan..... | 30 | 2 | 3 | .. | .. | 9 |
| Tioga..... | 11 | 4 | .. | 3 | .. | 4 |
| Tompkins..... | 4 | 1 | .. | 1 | .. | 1 |
| Ulster..... | 16 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 27 |
| Warren..... | 5 | 7 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 10 |
| Washington..... | 35 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | .. |
| Wayne..... | 19 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | 3 |
| Westchester..... | 5 | .. | 5 | 1 | .. | 46 |
| Wyoming..... | 19 | 10 | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Yates..... | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | .. | 3 |
| Total..... | 1,456 | 471 | 150 | 149 | 37 | 526 |

TABLE 8.

Showing the proportion of native and foreign born persons supported in the county poor-houses, during the year ending November 30, 1875.

| COUNTIES. | Total. | Male. | Female. | Native. | Foreign. |
|-------------------|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| Albany..... | 615 | 390 | 225 | 215 | 400 |
| Allegany..... | 93 | 48 | 45 | 74 | 19 |
| Broome..... | 224 | 134 | 90 | 162 | 62 |
| Cattaraugus..... | 230 | 149 | 71 | 132 | 88 |
| Cayuga..... | 507 | 282 | 225 | 274 | 233 |
| Chautauqua..... | 427 | 325 | 102 | 228 | 199 |
| Chemung..... | 212 | 165 | 47 | 138 | 74 |
| Chenango..... | 221 | 151 | 70 | 149 | 72 |
| Clinton..... | 276 | 244 | 32 | 66 | 210 |
| Columbia..... | 363 | 234 | 129 | 202 | 161 |
| Cortland..... | 114 | 55 | 59 | 100 | 14 |
| Delaware..... | 108 | 93 | 15 | 68 | 40 |
| Dutchess..... | 694 | 580 | 114 | 334 | 360 |
| Eric..... | 2,456 | 1,880 | 576 | 826 | 1,630 |
| Essex..... | 680 | 607 | 73 | 85 | 595 |
| Franklin..... | 93 | 50 | 43 | 45 | 48 |
| Fulton..... | 144 | 64 | 80 | 135 | 9 |
| Genesee..... | 273 | 205 | 68 | 135 | 138 |
| Greene..... | 601 | 498 | 103 | 334 | 267 |
| Hamilton..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Herkimer..... | 243 | 144 | 99 | 122 | 121 |
| Jefferson..... | 293 | 185 | 158 | 185 | 108 |
| Lewis..... | 102 | 57 | 45 | 58 | 44 |
| Livingston..... | 423 | 320 | 103 | 262 | 161 |
| Madison..... | 393 | 256 | 137 | 187 | 206 |
| Monroe..... | 906 | 626 | 279 | 349 | 556 |
| Montgomery..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Niagara..... | 534 | 396 | 138 | 261 | 273 |
| Oneida..... | 825 | 587 | 238 | 457 | 368 |
| Onondaga..... | 586 | 406 | 180 | 231 | 355 |
| Ontario..... | 375 | 297 | 78 | 165 | 210 |
| Orange..... | 1,296 | 795 | 501 | 308 | 986 |
| Orleans..... | 459 | 412 | 47 | 102 | 357 |
| Oswego..... | 185 | 116 | 69 | 114 | 71 |
| Otsego..... | 184 | 113 | 71 | 134 | 50 |
| Putnam..... | 247 | 185 | 62 | 160 | 87 |
| Queens..... | 1,978 | 1,343 | 55 | 250 | 1,128 |
| Rensselaer..... | 1,140 | 720 | 420 | 448 | 692 |
| Richmond..... | 231 | 112 | 119 | 145 | 86 |
| Rockland..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Lawrence..... | 290 | 105 | 185 | 110 | 180 |
| Saratoga..... | 300 | 197 | 103 | 186 | 114 |
| Schenectady..... | 100 | 40 | 60 | 35 | 65 |
| Schoharie..... | 121 | 81 | 40 | 81 | 40 |
| Schuyler..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Seneca..... | 305 | 256 | 49 | 180 | 125 |
| Steuben..... | 369 | 276 | 93 | 204 | 165 |
| Suffolk..... | 249 | 141 | 108 | 193 | 56 |
| Sullivan..... | 141 | 80 | 61 | 55 | 86 |
| Tioga..... | 717 | 659 | 58 | 437 | 280 |
| Tompkins..... | 180 | 115 | 65 | 60 | 120 |
| Ulster..... | 585 | 398 | 187 | 169 | 425 |
| Warren..... | 102 | 60 | 42 | 83 | 19 |
| Washington..... | 328 | 174 | 154 | 125 | 203 |
| Wayne..... | 830 | 780 | 50 | 326 | 504 |
| Westchester..... | 3,010 | 2,775 | 235 | 1,030 | 1,980 |
| Wyoming..... | 106 | 51 | 55 | 79 | 27 |
| Yates..... | 144 | 111 | 33 | 40 | 104 |
| Total..... | 25,907 | 19,473 | 6,494 | 11,019 | 14,948 |

TABLE 9.

Amount expended for support and relief during the year.

| COUNTIES. | In connection with the poor- houses. | For temporary relief. | Total. |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------|----------------|
| Albany..... | \$19,400 00 | ..... | \$19,400 00 |
| Allegany..... | 4,441 00 | \$6,046 00 | 10,487 00 |
| Broome..... | 10,907 14 | 13,236 49 | 24,143 63 |
| Cattaraugus..... | 9,004 81 | 11,909 70 | 20,914 51 |
| Cayuga..... | 9,319 26 | 21,729 15 | 31,048 41 |
| Chautauqua..... | 7,708 40 | 21,245 28 | 28,953 68 |
| Chemung..... | 6,977 64 | 412 83 | 7,390 47 |
| Chenango..... | 7,759 72 | 4,327 17 | 12,086 89 |
| Clinton..... | 8,899 36 | 9,872 74 | 18,772 10 |
| Columbia..... | 11,463 67 | 703 77 | 12,167 44 |
| Cortland..... | 4,632 75 | 3,280 66 | 7,913 41 |
| Delaware..... | 2,987 65 | 7,327 68 | 10,315 31 |
| Dutchess..... | 16,213 31 | 1,274 38 | 17,487 69 |
| Erie..... | 99,631 00 | 127,919 00 | 227,550 00 |
| Essex..... | 7,249 20 | 6,493 93 | 13,743 13 |
| Franklin..... | 4,093 68 | 6,239 89 | 10,333 57 |
| Fulton..... | 6,521 70 | 10,496 98 | 17,018 68 |
| Genesee..... | 5,431 09 | 2,110 07 | 7,541 16 |
| Greene..... | 5,831 00 | 5,869 77 | 11,700 77 |
| Hamilton..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Herkimer..... | 7,885 89 | 1,084 00 | 8,969 89 |
| Jefferson..... | 12,018 71 | 25,659 47 | 37,678 18 |
| Lewis..... | 6,833 48 | 1,399 11 | 8,232 59 |
| Livingston..... | 17,437 13 | 3,634 47 | 21,071 60 |
| Madison..... | 10,716 49 | ..... | 10,716 49 |
| Monroe..... | 23,701 31 | 102,423 44 | 126,124 75 |
| Montgomery..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Niagara..... | 11,614 19 | 13,206 66 | 24,820 85 |
| Oneida..... | 25,657 78 | 16,525 18 | 42,182 96 |
| Onondaga..... | 15,608 00 | 17,690 38 | 33,298 38 |
| Ontario..... | 9,358 43 | 9,924 54 | 19,282 97 |
| Orange..... | 36,417 37 | 3,002 74 | 39,420 11 |
| Orleans..... | 8,017 70 | 4,585 53 | 12,603 23 |
| Oswego..... | 13,915 85 | 34,286 96 | 48,202 81 |
| Otsego..... | 9,144 02 | 9,814 81 | 18,958 83 |
| Putnam..... | 1,802 50 | 22 50 | 1,825 00 |
| Queens..... | 24,231 76 | 10,056 53 | 34,288 29 |
| Rensselaer..... | 20,608 93 | 10,058 06 | 30,666 99 |
| Richmond..... | 12,804 26 | 5,668 98 | 18,473 24 |
| Rockland..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Lawrence..... | 7,600 50 | 28,700 62 | 34,301 12 |
| Saratoga..... | 12,104 52 | 477 80 | 12,582 32 |
| Schenectady..... | 10,699 89 | 4,155 38 | 14,855 27 |
| Schoharie..... | 6,985 17 | 787 37 | 7,772 54 |
| Schuyler..... | ..... | 5,747 27 | 5,747 27 |
| Seneca..... | 5,740 66 | ..... | 5,740 66 |
| Steuben..... | 7,919 13 | 14,673 75 | 22,592 88 |
| Suffolk..... | 15,352 07 | 17,198 78 | 32,550 85 |
| Sullivan..... | 7,308 06 | 3,108 44 | 10,416 50 |
| Tioga..... | 4,735 29 | 12,926 97 | 17,662 26 |
| Tompkins..... | 2,928 61 | 1,553 46 | 4,482 07 |
| Ulster..... | 11,275 03 | 498 06 | 11,773 09 |
| Warren..... | 4,877 55 | 762 20 | 5,639 75 |
| Washington..... | 11,575 72 | ..... | 11,575 72 |
| Wayne..... | 8,771 29 | 5,134 93 | 13,906 22 |
| Westchester..... | 19,775 60 | 1,088 00 | 20,863 60 |
| Wyoming..... | 4,458 94 | 2,550 43 | 7,009 37 |
| Yates..... | 3,852 45 | 7,646 15 | 11,498 60 |
| Total..... | \$662,206 66 | \$634,548 44 | \$1,296,755 10 |

TABLE 10.

Showing the value of poor-house establishments, labor of the paupers, and the expense of supporting each person.

| COUNTIES. | Number of acres of land attached to the poor-house. | Estimated value of poor-house establishments. | Value of labor of paupers. | Sum expended above the earnings of paupers for the support of each person. | Weekly expense of each person. |
|-------------------|---|---|----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Albany..... | 216 | \$300,000 00 | \$1,000 00 | \$77 48 | \$1 49 |
| Allegany..... | 170 | 8,000 00 | 100 00 | 50 80 | 1 15 |
| Broome..... | 130 | 32,500 00 | 900 00 | 65 00 | 1 25 |
| Cattaraugus..... | 200 | 33,000 00 | 400 00 | 69 18 | 1 33 |
| Cayuga..... | 96 | 25,000 00 | 1,200 00 | 86 32 | 1 66 |
| Chautauqua..... | 306 | 100,000 00 | 1,500 00 | 41 89 | 2 80 |
| Chemung..... | 180 | 17,000 00 | 100 00 | 123 24 | 2 37 |
| Chenango..... | 184 | 20,000 00 | 500 00 | 79 39 | 1 53 |
| Clinton..... | 80 | 48,000 00 | 225 00 | 53 78 | 1 04 |
| Columbia..... | 214 | 40,000 00 | 1,000 00 | 86 84 | 1 67 |
| Cortland..... | 118 | 20,000 00 | 400 00 | 55 50 | 1 07 |
| Delaware..... | 180 | 12,000 00 | ..... | 65 52 | 1 26 |
| Dutchess..... | 100 | 20,000 00 | ..... | 120 86 | 2 32 |
| Erie..... | 154 | 210,640 00 | 8,934 00 | 88 42 | 1 70 |
| Essex..... | 90 | 16,000 00 | 400 00 | 54 60 | 1 05 |
| Franklin..... | 172 | 43,372 09 | ..... | 54 60 | 1 05 |
| Fulton..... | 100 | 7,000 00 | 500 00 | 91 00 | 1 75 |
| Genesee..... | 230 | 15,000 00 | 500 00 | 58 24 | 1 12 |
| Greene..... | 188 | 15,400 00 | 425 00 | 54 60 | 1 05 |
| Hamilton..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Herkimer..... | 65 | 10,000 00 | 200 00 | 80 81 | 1 55 |
| Jefferson..... | 170 | 25,000 00 | 1,000 00 | 68 64 | 1 32 |
| Lewis..... | 59 | 22,000 00 | 300 00 | 78 52 | 1 51 |
| Livingston..... | 118 | 59,507 74 | 1,200 00 | 100 00 | 2 00 |
| Madison..... | 159 | 15,000 00 | 450 00 | 91 59 | 1 76 |
| Monroe..... | 95 | 95,000 00 | 500 00 | 75 87 | 1 46 |
| Montgomery..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Niagara..... | 123 | 40,000 00 | ..... | 80 08 | 1 54 |
| Oneida..... | 190 | 90,000 00 | 4,000 00 | 53 04 | 1 02 |
| Onondaga..... | 36 | 60,936 50 | 300 00 | 58 24 | 1 12 |
| Ontario..... | 212 | 30,000 00 | 1,000 00 | 74 87 | 1 44 |
| Orange..... | 263 | 75,000 00 | 1,200 00 | 90 30 | 1 73 |
| Orleans..... | 121 | 16,616 00 | 375 00 | 77 20 | 1 49 |
| Oswego..... | 60 | 40,000 00 | ..... | 24 39 | 47 |
| Otsego..... | 225 | 20,000 00 | 500 00 | 79 56 | 1 53 |
| Putnam..... | 202 | 12,500 00 | ..... | 33 28 | 64 |
| Queens..... | 300 | 36,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 97 84 | 1 88 |
| Rensselaer..... | 144 | 80,000 00 | 700 00 | 104 45 | 2 00 |
| Richmond..... | 121 | 25,000 00 | 600 00 | 98 80 | 1 90 |
| Rockland..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Lawrence..... | 335 | 75,000 00 | 600 00 | 56 60 | 1 08 |
| Saratoga..... | 115 | 50,000 00 | 500 00 | 76 86 | 1 48 |
| Schenectady..... | 50 | 50,000 00 | ..... | 131 40 | 2 52 |
| Schoharie..... | 62 | 12,000 00 | ..... | 141 96 | 2 73 |
| Schuyler..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Seneca..... | 126 | 18,000 00 | 400 00 | 140 01 | 2 70 |
| Steuken..... | 200 | 15,000 00 | 300 00 | 63 47 | 1 22 |
| Suffolk..... | 170 | 90,000 00 | 1,200 00 | 118 93 | 2 28 |
| Sullivan..... | 100 | 10,000 00 | 550 00 | 56 68 | 1 09 |
| Tioga..... | 60 | 9,800 00 | 425 00 | 76 44 | 1 47 |
| Tompkins..... | 100 | 15,000 00 | 500 00 | 57 72 | 1 11 |
| Ulster..... | 147 | 20,000 00 | 817 41 | 37 23 | 71 |
| Warren..... | 180 | 4,000 00 | ..... | 83 73 | 1 61 |
| Washington..... | 266 | 25,000 00 | 1,200 00 | 91 00 | 1 75 |
| Wayne..... | 195 | 30,000 00 | 425 00 | 83 20 | 1 60 |
| Westchester..... | 155 | 70,000 00 | 1,500 00 | 79 71 | 1 53 |
| Wyoming..... | 280 | 25,000 00 | 300 00 | 65 00 | 1 25 |
| Yates..... | 185 | 13,000 00 | 400 00 | 102 76 | 1 97 |
| Total..... | 8,497 | \$2,270,272 33 | \$42,526 41 | ..... | ..... |

TABLE 11.

Showing the number of persons supported and relieved, and the changes in the city alms-houses, during the year ending November 30, 1875.

| NAME. | Number in the alms-house Dec. 1, 1874. | Received during the year. | Born in the house. | Whole number supported. | Number temporarily relieved. | Total supported and relieved. |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Kings Co. (Brookl'n city) alms-house | 1,974 | 5,592 | 108 | 7,674 | 33,850 | 43,524 |
| Kingston city alms-house. | 61 | 126 | .... | 187 | 3,575 | 3,762 |
| Newburgh city & town alms-house. | 80 | 286 | 5 | 371 | 2,710 | 3,081 |
| New York city alms-house..... | 6,679 | 20,553 | 614 | 27,846 | 27,153 | 54,999 |
| Oswego city alms-house | 60 | 46 | 1 | 107 | 548 | 655 |
| Poughkeepsie city alms-house..... | 73 | 2,755 | 3 | 2,831 | 953 | 3,784 |
| Utica city alms-house..... | 8 | 235 | 1 | 244 | .... | 244 |
| Total | 8,935 | 29,593 | 732 | 39,290 | 70,789 | 110,049 |

TABLE 11 — (Concluded).

| NAME. | Discharged. | Round out. | Absconded. | Died. | REMAINING Nov. 30, '75. | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|-------|-------------------------|----------|--------|
| | | | | | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Kings Co. (Brooklyn city) alms-house. | 5,164 | .... | .... | 538 | 901 | 1,071 | 1,972 |
| Kingston city alms-house | 110 | 12 | .... | 10 | 39 | 16 | 55 |
| Newburgh city and town alms-house.. | 235 | 23 | 43 | 10 | 43 | 17 | 60 |
| New York city alms-house. | 18,483 | 194 | 28 | 2,683 | 3,318 | 3,140 | 6,458 |
| Oswego city alms-house | 32 | 5 | .... | 10 | 35 | 25 | 60 |
| Poughkeepsie city alms-house..... | 2,748 | .... | .... | 13 | 37 | 33 | 70 |
| Utica city alms-house..... | 224 | 1 | .... | 8 | 8 | 3 | 11 |
| Total..... | 26,996 | 235 | 71 | 3,272 | 4,381 | 4,305 | 8,686 |

TABLE 12.

Showing the number of insane, idiots, epileptics, blind, deaf mutes and children in the city alms-houses November 30, 1875.

| NAME. | Insane. | Idiota. | Epileptics. | Blind. | Deaf mutes. | Children under 16 years of age. |
|---|---------|---------|-------------|--------|-------------|---------------------------------|
| Kings Co. (Brooklyn city) alms-house..... | 793 | .... | .... | .... | .... | 93 |
| Kingston city alms-house..... | .... | .... | .... | 4 | .... | 6 |
| Newburgh city and town alms-house | 17 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 5 |
| New York city alms-house..... | 1,847 | 181 | .... | 101 | 8 | 1,321 |
| Oswego city alms-house..... | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .... | 5 |
| Poughkeepsie city alms-house..... | 9 | 1 | 2 | 2 | .... | 4 |
| Utica city alms-house..... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... | .... |
| Total | 2,667 | 186 | 7 | 109 | 9 | 1,434 |

TABLE 13.

Showing the proportion of native and foreign born persons supported during the year.

| NAME. | Total. | Male. | Female. | Native. | Foreign. |
|--|--------|--------|---------|---------|----------|
| Kings county (Brooklyn city) alms-house..... | 7,674 | 4,169 | 3,505 | 2,986 | 4,688 |
| Kingston city alms-house..... | 187 | 138 | 49 | 71 | 116 |
| Newburgh city and town alms-house..... | 371 | 176 | 195 | 152 | 219 |
| New York city alms-house..... | 27,846 | 15,664 | 12,182 | 9,120 | 18,726 |
| Oswego city alms-house..... | 107 | 65 | 42 | 40 | 67 |
| Poughkeepsie city alms-house..... | 2,831 | 2,685 | 146 | 901 | 1,930 |
| Utica city alms-house..... | 244 | 113 | 131 | 118 | 126 |
| Total..... | 39,260 | 23,010 | 16,250 | 13,888 | 25,372 |

TABLE 14.

Amount expended for support and relief during the year.

| NAME. | For support in alms-houses. | For temporary relief. | Total. |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Kings county (Brooklyn city) alms-house.... | \$295,636 10 | \$116,524 90 | \$412,161 90 |
| Kingston city alms-house..... | 7,867 30 | 9,750 68 | 17,617 98 |
| Newburgh city and town alms-house..... | 21,267 82 | 4,079 97 | 25,347 79 |
| New York city alms-house..... | 737,842 36 | 95,521 70 | 833,364 06 |
| Oswego city alms-house..... | 6,863 92 | 13,629 07 | 20,492 99 |
| Poughkeepsie city alms-house..... | 7,292 61 | 3,057 25 | 10,349 86 |
| Utica city alms-house..... | 3,498 38 | ..... | 3,498 38 |
| Total..... | \$1,080,268 49 | \$242,563 57 | \$1,322,832 06 |

TABLE 15.

Showing the value of the alms-house establishments, labor of the paupers, and the expense of supporting each person.

| NAME. | Acres of land attached to the alms-house. | Estimated value of alms-house establishments. | Value of labor of paupers. | Yearly sum expended for the support of each person. | Average weekly expense of each person. |
|--|---|---|----------------------------|---|--|
| Kings county (Brooklyn city) alms-house..... | 70 | \$1,200,000 00 | \$3,000 00 | \$151 68 | \$2 92 |
| Kingston city alms-house..... | 22 | 50,000 00 | ..... | 93 60 | 1 80 |
| Newburgh city and town alms-house..... | 74 | 75,000 00 | 150 00 | 52 00 | 1 00 |
| New York city alms-house..... | ..... | *2,695,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Oswego city alms-house..... | 136 | 60,000 00 | 500 00 | 33 75 | 65 |
| Poughkeepsie city alms-house..... | 18 | 50,000 00 | 350 00 | 91 91 | 1 76 |
| Utica city alms-house..... | 7 | 40,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total..... | 327 | \$4,170,000 00 | \$4,000 00 | ..... | ..... |

* According to report of 1868, no estimate since then having been furnished.

TABLE 16.

Showing the estimated value of the property of Orphan Asylums and Homes for the Friendless, and their indebtedness at the close of the year ending September 30, 1875.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Real estate. | Personal property. | Total. | INDEBTEDNESS. | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| | | | | Real. | Personal. | Total. |
| Albany Guardian Society and Home for the Friendless..... | \$25,000 00 | \$29,000 00 | \$54,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Albany Orphan Asylum..... | 80,000 00 | 70,963 20 | 149,963 20 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| American Female Guardian Society and Home for the Friendless, New York..... | 125,000 00 | 30,000 00 | 155,000 00 | \$29,000 00 | \$6,026 92 | \$35,026 92 |
| Association for Befriending Children and Young Girls, New York..... | 50,000 00 | ..... | 50,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Association for the Relief of Respectable Aged Indigent Females, New York..... | 40,000 00 | 483,525 00 | 523,525 00 | 3,500 00 | 410 28 | 3,910 28 |
| Asylum of Our Lady of Refuge, Buffalo..... | 20,800 75 | 4,991 30 | 25,792 05 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Baptist Home for the Aged, New York..... | 127,210 16 | 20,194 11 | 147,404 27 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Brooklyn Industrial School Association and Home for Destitute Children..... | 75,000 00 | 5,000 00 | 80,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Brooklyn Industrial School Association, Eastern District..... | 29,500 00 | 21,251 86 | 50,751 86 | 7,575 00 | ..... | 7,575 00 |
| Brooklyn Nursery Asylum..... | 16,000 00 | 335 66 | 16,335 66 | 7,700 00 | 1,484 33 | 9,184 33 |
| Buffalo Orphan Asylum..... | 21,720 82 | 31,339 51 | 53,070 40 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Cayuga Asylum for Destitute Children, Auburn..... | 31,500 00 | 5,500 00 | 37,000 00 | ..... | 500 00 | 500 00 |
| Central New York Institution for Deaf Mutes, Rome..... | 200,000 00 | 22,200 00 | 222,200 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Charity Home for the Aged and Infirm, New York..... | 50,000 00 | 5,000 00 | 55,000 00 | 11,000 00 | 830 38 | 11,830 38 |
| Charity Home of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Buffalo..... | 57,500 00 | 17,000 00 | 74,500 00 | ..... | 1,700 00 | 1,700 00 |
| Children's Aid Society, Brooklyn..... | 300,000 00 | 150,000 00 | 450,000 00 | 115,000 00 | ..... | 115,000 00 |
| Children's Aid Society, New York..... | 1,500 00 | 1,232 77 | 2,732 77 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Children's Fold, New York..... | 4,200 00 | 3,400 00 | 7,600 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Children's Friend Society, Albany..... | 181,000 00 | 32,169 50 | 213,169 50 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Children's Home Society (Day Home), Troy..... | 7,000 00 | 239,750 00 | 246,750 00 | 31,400 00 | ..... | 31,400 00 |
| Church Charity Foundation of Long Island, Brooklyn..... | 125,000 00 | 46,000 00 | 171,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Colored Home, New York..... | 200,000 00 | 103,912 65 | 303,912 65 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Colored Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 142,300 00 | 155,800 00 | 298,100 00 | 57,000 00 | 14,000 00 | 71,000 00 |
| Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Brooklyn..... | 49,000 00 | 7,000 00 | 56,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 3,000 00 | 11,000 00 |
| Davenport Institution for Female Orphan Children, Bath..... | 16,000 00 | 7,000 00 | 23,000 00 | 12,000 00 | 6,500 00 | 18,500 00 |
| Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Orphan Home, Buffalo..... | 24,000 00 | 950 00 | 24,950 00 | ..... | 500 00 | 11,500 00 |
| Excelsior Farm, Rochester..... | 230,000 00 | 52,100 00 | 282,100 00 | 45,000 00 | 3,573 09 | 48,573 09 |
| Female Christian Home, New York..... | 87,000 00 | 1,000 00 | 88,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Five Points House of Industry, New York..... | 45,000 00 | 3,000 00 | 48,000 00 | 30,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 38,000 00 |
| Five Points Mission, New York..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| German Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Hebrew Benevolent and Orphan Asylum Society, New York.... | \$19,564 83 | \$19,564 83 | \$19,564 83 | \$23,500 00 | \$23,500 00 |
| Home for Aged and Infirmed Hebrews, New York..... | 42,000 00 | 42,000 00 | 42,000 00 | 42,000 00 | 42,000 00 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Albany.... | 88,000 00 | 88,000 00 | 88,000 00 | 16,500 00 | 16,500 00 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Brooklyn.... | 115,000 00 | 115,000 00 | 115,000 00 | 50,000 00 | 50,000 00 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, New York.... | 40,000 00 | 40,000 00 | 40,000 00 | 11,000 00 | 11,000 00 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Troy..... | 37,000 00 | 37,000 00 | 37,000 00 | 3,500 00 | 3,500 00 |
| Home for the Blind, New York..... | 600 00 | 600 00 | 600 00 | 1,000 00 | 1,000 00 |
| Home for Christian Care, New York..... | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 1,000 00 | 1,000 00 |
| Home for the Friendless, Auburn..... | 12,500 00 | 12,500 00 | 12,500 00 | 17,000 00 | 17,000 00 |
| Home for the Friendless, Buffalo..... | 8,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 8,000 00 |
| Home for the Friendless, Lockport..... | 13,500 00 | 13,500 00 | 13,500 00 | 28,801 13 | 28,801 13 |
| Home for the Friendless, Newburgh..... | 35,000 00 | 35,000 00 | 35,000 00 | 35,000 00 | 35,000 00 |
| Home for the Friendless, Rochester..... | 8,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 9,000 00 | 9,000 00 |
| Home for the Friendless, Schenectady..... | 25,000 00 | 25,000 00 | 25,000 00 | 70,000 00 | 70,000 00 |
| Home for the Homeless, Utica..... | 400 00 | 400 00 | 400 00 | 776 01 | 776 01 |
| Home for Fallen and Friendless Girls, New York..... | 196,000 00 | 196,000 00 | 196,000 00 | 300,707 35 | 300,707 35 |
| Home for the Friendless of Northern New York, Plattsburgh..... | 496,750 00 | 496,750 00 | 496,750 00 | 486,750 00 | 486,750 00 |
| House of the Good Shepherd, Brooklyn..... | 25,000 00 | 25,000 00 | 25,000 00 | 6,000 00 | 6,000 00 |
| House of the Good Shepherd, New York..... | 14,000 00 | 14,000 00 | 14,000 00 | 14,000 00 | 14,000 00 |
| House of the Good Shepherd, Stoney Point..... | 45,000 00 | 45,000 00 | 45,000 00 | 2,500 00 | 2,500 00 |
| House of the Good Shepherd, Utica..... | 30,000 00 | 30,000 00 | 30,000 00 | 40,577 50 | 40,577 50 |
| House of Mercy, New York..... | 77,300 00 | 77,300 00 | 77,300 00 | 20,000 00 | 20,000 00 |
| House of Shelter, Albany..... | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 17,500 00 | 17,500 00 |
| Howard Mission, New York..... | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 |
| Hudson Orphan and Relief Association..... | 27,000 00 | 27,000 00 | 27,000 00 | 62,500 00 | 62,500 00 |
| Industrial Home, Buffalo..... | 6,453 00 | 6,453 00 | 6,453 00 | 6,453 00 | 6,453 00 |
| Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf Mutes, New York.... | 80,000 00 | 80,000 00 | 80,000 00 | 1,800 00 | 1,800 00 |
| Institution of Mercy (East Houston street), New York..... | 194,768 35 | 194,768 35 | 194,768 35 | 25,000 00 | 25,000 00 |
| Institution of Mercy (Eighty-first street), New York..... | 35,500 00 | 35,500 00 | 35,500 00 | 50,000 00 | 50,000 00 |
| Isaac T. Hoffer Home, New York..... | 14,000 00 | 14,000 00 | 14,000 00 | 80,000 00 | 80,000 00 |
| Jefferson County Orphan Asylum, Watertown..... | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 184,768 35 | 184,768 35 |
| Ladies Benevolent Society, Schenectady..... | 50,000 00 | 50,000 00 | 50,000 00 | 17,000 00 | 17,000 00 |
| Ladies Union Aid Society (Methodist Episcopal Church Home), New York..... | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 24,500 00 | 24,500 00 |
| Ladies Union Relief Association, New York..... | 46,000 00 | 46,000 00 | 46,000 00 | 7,000 00 | 7,000 00 |
| Leake & Wals Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 46,000 00 | 46,000 00 |
| Le Courteux St. Mary's Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Buffalo..... | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 40,101 00 | 40,101 00 |
| Madison County Orphan Asylum, Peterboro..... | 95,000 00 | 95,000 00 | 95,000 00 | 107 00 | 107 00 |
| Madrasa Benevolent Society, New York..... | 35,000 00 | 35,000 00 | 35,000 00 | 37,000 00 | 37,000 00 |
| Martine's Asylum, Staten Island..... | 176,050 83 | 176,050 83 | 176,050 83 | 8,586 28 | 8,586 28 |
| Midnight Mission, New York..... | 818,373 77 | 818,373 77 | 818,373 77 | 8,000 00 | 8,000 00 |
| New York Catholic Protectory..... | 931,291 01 | 931,291 01 | 931,291 01 | 1,000 00 | 1,000 00 |
| New York Foundling Asylum..... | 52,500 00 | 52,500 00 | 52,500 00 | 292,360 00 | 292,360 00 |
| New York Infant Asylum..... | 500,000 00 | 500,000 00 | 500,000 00 | 54,874 48 | 54,874 48 |
| New York Juvenile Asylum..... | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 356,356 01 | 356,356 01 |
| New York Juvenile Guardian Society..... | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 100,000 00 | 2,500 00 | 2,500 00 |
| New York Seamen's Association..... | 55,000 00 | 55,000 00 | 55,000 00 | 13,500 00 | 13,500 00 |
| New York Seamen's Association..... | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 45,000 00 | 45,000 00 |

TABLE 16 — (Continued).

| INSTITUTIONS. | Real estate. | Personal property. | Total. | INDEBTEDNESS. | | |
|---|--------------|--------------------|--------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| | | | | Real. | Personal. | Total. |
| Nursery and Child's Hospital, New York | \$158,000 00 | \$8,000 00 | \$164,000 00 | \$10,000 00 | \$3,203 88 | \$13,203 88 |
| Onondaga County Orphan Asylum, Syracuse | 21,035 00 | 34,578 00 | 55,613 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Ontario Orphan Asylum, Canandaigua | 30,730 00 | 5,800 00 | 36,530 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphan Asylum Society, Brooklyn | 200,000 00 | 17,380 00 | 217,380 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphan Asylum Society, New York | 600,000 00 | 109,000 00 | 709,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphan's Home and Asylum of the Holy Trinity Church, Brooklyn, E. D. | 36,000 00 | 30,000 00 | 66,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphan's Home & Asylum of the Protestant Episcopal Church, New York | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphan House of St. Peter's Church, Albany | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphan House of the Holy Saviour, Cooperstown | 4,500 00 | 500 00 | 5,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Oswego Orphan Asylum | 30,000 00 | 23,848 73 | 53,848 73 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Poughkeepsie Orphan House and Home for the Friendless | 15,500 00 | 40,200 00 | 55,700 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Presbyterian Home, New York | 100,000 00 | 37,000 00 | 137,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Protestant Episcopal Church Home, Rochester | 30,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 40,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Rochester Industrial School | 21,869 59 | ..... | 21,869 59 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Rochester Home of Industry | 18,750 00 | ..... | 18,750 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Rochester Orphan Asylum | 65,000 00 | 7,000 00 | 72,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum Society, Brooklyn | 250,000 00 | ..... | 250,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum Society, New York | 373,551 22 | 3,895 00 | 377,446 22 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Samaritan Home for Aged Men and Women, New York | 42,000 00 | 5,000 00 | 47,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Sheltering Arms, New York | 96,401 01 | 3,500 00 | 99,901 01 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Sheltering Arms Nursery, P. E. Church, Brooklyn | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Shelter for Babies, New York | ..... | 1,500 00 | 1,500 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Shelter for Respectable Girls, New York | ..... | 2,000 00 | 2,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Shepherd's Fold, New York | 80,000 00 | ..... | 80,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Sisters of the Order St. Dominic (Asylum), New York | 22,706 00 | 18,813 18 | 41,519 18 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catholic Children, Buffalo | 1,000 00 | 14,600 00 | 15,600 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Society for the Relief of Destitute Children of Seamen, Saug Harbor | 90,000 00 | 27,000 00 | 117,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Society for the Relief of Half Orphan and Destitute Children, New York | 100,000 00 | 50,000 00 | 150,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Society for the Relief of Respectable, Aged, Indigent Females, Brooklyn | 28,355 16 | 5,678 08 | 34,033 24 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Southern Tier Orphan's Home, Elmira | 24,000 00 | ..... | 24,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Barnabas' House, New York | 66,500 00 | ..... | 66,500 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Francis' Asylum, Buffalo | 30,000 00 | ..... | 30,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. John's Female Orphan Asylum, Utica | 128,000 00 | ..... | 128,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Joseph's Asylum, New York | 20,000 00 | 17,400 00 | 37,400 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Joseph's Asylum and House of Providence, Syracuse | 87,230 81 | 11,108 00 | 98,338 81 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Joseph's German Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, Rochester | 301,374 41 | 4,875 15 | 306,249 56 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Joseph's Home for the Aged, New York | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Joseph's Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf-Mutes, Brooklyn | | | | | | |

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

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| | | | | | | |
|---|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | 30,000 00 | 2,500 00 | 32,500 00 | 5,751 12 | 2,316 29 | 8,067 41 |
| St. Luke's Home for Indigent Christian Females, New York..... | 110,000 00 | 6,109 50 | 116,109 50 | 29,000 00 | ..... | 29,000 00 |
| St. Mary's Boys' Orphan Asylum, Rochester..... | 45,000 00 | ..... | 45,000 00 | 10,000 00 | 6,000 00 | 16,000 00 |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Canandaigua..... | 15,000 00 | ..... | 15,000 00 | 3,000 00 | 400 00 | 3,400 00 |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Dunkirk..... | 13,700 00 | ..... | 13,700 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Fort Jervis..... | 12,000 00 | ..... | 12,000 00 | 8,000 00 | ..... | 8,000 00 |
| St. Patrick's Female Orphan Asylum, Rochester..... | 34,000 00 | ..... | 34,000 00 | 8,000 00 | 3,000 00 | 3,000 00 |
| St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, Newburg..... | 25,000 00 | ..... | 25,000 00 | 8,000 00 | ..... | 8,000 00 |
| St. Peter's German Roman Catholic Association, Rondout..... | ..... | 4,400 00 | 4,400 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Stephen's Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 30,000 00 | ..... | 30,000 00 | 15,140 75 | 4,000 00 | 19,140 75 |
| St. Thomas' Orphan Asylum, Batavia..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Industrial School, New York..... | 126,102 06 | 500 00 | 126,602 06 | 55,000 00 | 1,752 63 | 56,752 63 |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 40,000 00 | ..... | 40,000 00 | 8,500 00 | 7,729 50 | 16,229 50 |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, Syracuse..... | 83,116 00 | 2,000 00 | 85,116 00 | 55,142 00 | ..... | 55,142 00 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Albany..... | 46,000 00 | ..... | 46,000 00 | 14,000 00 | 5,000 00 | 19,000 00 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | 41,000 00 | ..... | 41,000 00 | 21,700 00 | 2,905 78 | 24,605 78 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Vincent's Home for Boys, Brooklyn..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Vincent's Home for Boys, New York..... | 32,775 00 | 400 00 | 33,175 00 | ..... | 1,294 62 | 1,294 62 |
| St. Vincent's Infant Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | 50,000 00 | ..... | 50,000 00 | ..... | 4,123 15 | 4,123 15 |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Albany..... | 100,000 00 | ..... | 100,000 00 | 35,000 00 | 25,000 00 | 60,000 00 |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Utica..... | 35,700 00 | ..... | 35,700 00 | ..... | 700 00 | 700 00 |
| Susquehanna Valley Home, Binghamton..... | ..... | 30,298 55 | 85,298 55 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Syracuse Home Association..... | 55,000 00 | 1,000 00 | 56,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Temporary Home for Friendless Women and Children, Brooklyn..... | 41,000 00 | ..... | 41,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children, Versailles..... | 23,000 00 | ..... | 23,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Troy Catholic Male Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | 117,603 15 | ..... | 117,603 15 | 10,000 00 | 1,291 06 | 11,291 06 |
| Troy Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | 45,000 00 | 82,500 00 | 127,500 00 | ..... | 4,000 00 | 4,000 00 |
| Truant Home, Brooklyn..... | 83,600 00 | ..... | 83,600 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Union Home and School for the Education of the Children of our Volun- teers, New York..... | 110,000 00 | 5,573 48 | 115,573 48 | 45,000 00 | 2,500 00 | 47,500 00 |
| Utica Orphan Asylum..... | 30,000 00 | 130,984 24 | 160,984 24 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Wilson's Industrial Schools for Girls, New York..... | 100,000 00 | 6,000 00 | 106,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Women's Aid Society and Home for Training Young Girls, New York..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total..... | \$10,590,250 17 | \$2,690,096 00 | \$13,280,346 83 | \$1,734,171 37 | \$968,123 52 | \$2,102,294 89 |

TABLE 17.
Showing the receipts of Orphan Asylums and Homes for the year ending September 30, 1875.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Cash on hand. | From the state. | From appropriations by boards of supervisors. | From appropriations by cities. | From individuals for the support of inmates. | By donations and voluntary contributions. | From interest and dividends on investments. | From loans. | From all other sources. | Total receipts. |
|--|---------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|---|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Albany Guardian Society and Home for the Friendless. | \$68 52 | ..... | ..... | ..... | \$1,174 11. | \$1,279 25 | \$1,800 00 | ..... | \$626 52 | \$3,774 30 |
| Albany Orphan Asylum. | 1,538 75 | ..... | \$7,893 00 | ..... | ..... | 1,043 00 | 7,014 45 | ..... | 110 47 | 18,774 78 |
| American Female Guardian Society and Home for the Friendless, New York. | 2,179 92 | \$25,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20,187 74 | 3,087 33 | ..... | 24,230 49 | 74,682 48 |
| Association for Befriending Children and Young Girls, New York. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,384 33 | ..... | ..... | 7,619 09 | 11,182 79 |
| Association for the Relief of Respectable Aged Indigent Females, New York. | 15,827 44 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Asylum of Our Lady of Refuge, Buffalo. | 189 15 | ..... | 226 00 | ..... | 1,235 42 | 17,296 23 | 34,533 94 | ..... | 2,625 00 | 70,192 61 |
| Baptist Home for the Aged, New York. | 603 17 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 14,656 54 | 1,397 81 | \$2,091 00 | 4,814 77 | 7,141 87 |
| Brooklyn Industrial School Association and Home for Destitute Children. | 15,435 78 | ..... | 1,095 80 | ..... | 2,106 85 | 9,906 96 | 330 00 | ..... | 7,339 44 | 36,204 83 |
| Brooklyn Industrial School Association, Eastern District. | 9,288 07 | ..... | ..... | 582 24 | 702 50 | 9,648 12 | 1,249 20 | ..... | ..... | 21,470 13 |
| Brooklyn Nursery. | 47 09 | ..... | ..... | 5,000 00 | 998 42 | 9,191 66 | ..... | ..... | 827 17 | 16,064 34 |
| Buffalo Orphan Asylum. | 1,318 94 | ..... | 1,909 00 | ..... | ..... | 3,869 06 | 2,072 44 | 1,000 00 | 3,164 37 | 13,333 81 |
| Cayuga Asylum for Destitute Children, Auburn. | ..... | ..... | 2,500 00 | ..... | 233 25 | 2,478 75 | 571 92 | 500 00 | 484 01 | 6,767 93 |
| Central New York Institution for Deaf Mutes, Rome. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Chapin Home for the Aged and Infirmed, New York. | 11,896 93 | ..... | ..... | 1,500 00 | 1,165 10 | 2,475 84 | 1,589 83 | ..... | 1,847 50 | 20,475 20 |
| Charity Foundation of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Buffalo. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 607 00 | 3,759 80 | 391 27 | 6,000 00 | 1,983 74 | 12,041 81 |
| Children's Aid Society, Brooklyn. | 603 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 12,650 14 | 3,281 69 | 1,700 00 | ..... | 23,143 90 |
| Children's Aid Society, New York. | 1,037 22 | ..... | 70,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 185,490 84 | 256,997 06 |
| Children's Fold, New York. | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4,161 50 | 386 00 | 1,650 05 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6,239 01 |
| Children's Friend Society, Albany. | 406 06 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,864 43 | 154 70 | ..... | 1,000 00 | 3,426 14 |

TABLE 17 — (Continued).

| INSTITUTIONS. | Cash on hand. | From the state. | From appropriations by boards of supervisors. | From appropriations by cities. | From individuals for the support of inmates. | By donations and voluntary contributions. | From interest and dividends on investments. | From loans. | From all other sources. | Total receipts. |
|--|---------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|---|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| House for Idle and Truant Children, Rochester..... | \$271 74 | ..... | ..... | \$7,500 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | \$7,771 74 |
| House of Mercy, New York..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | \$57 00 | \$2,546 00 | \$80 00 | ..... | \$313 00 | 8,010 00 |
| House of Shelter, Albany..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 834 89 | 4,814 32 | ..... | ..... | 377 22 | 6,653 53 |
| Howard Colored Orphan Asylum, Brooklyn..... | 15 00 | ..... | ..... | 617 00 | ..... | 16,230 65 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 17,312 34 |
| Howard Mission, New York..... | 111 69 | ..... | ..... | 1,000 00 | 222 88 | 40 00 | 3,614 71 | \$1,750 00 | 511 50 | 10,301 75 |
| Hudson Orphan and Relief Association | 1,452 22 | ..... | \$2,710 44 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Industrial School of the Sisters of Mercy, Rochester..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 570 00 | 50 00 | ..... | 1,432 50 | 1,617 62 | 2,337 62 |
| Ingleside Home, Buffalo..... | 4,054 18 | ..... | 1,415 00 | 846 85 | ..... | 282 99 | 230 02 | ..... | 166 55 | 8,478 18 |
| Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf Mutes, New York..... | ..... | ..... | 7,091 01 | ..... | 4,975 00 | 250 00 | 700 00 | ..... | 6,420 28 | 37,991 95 |
| Institution of Mercy (East Houston street), New York..... | ..... | \$18,555 66 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Institution of Mercy (Eighty-first street), New York..... | 181 33 | ..... | ..... | 4,000 00 | ..... | 8,311 66 | ..... | ..... | 5,632 24 | 18,445 23 |
| Isaac T. Hopper Home, New York..... | 113 20 | ..... | ..... | 1,800 00 | 2,895 00 | 2,230 00 | ..... | ..... | 15,463 61 | 22,471 81 |
| Jefferson County Orphan Asylum, Watertown..... | 312 58 | ..... | ..... | 500 00 | 1,056 00 | 1,052 00 | 3,103 30 | ..... | 8,897 01 | 15,015 89 |
| Ladies' Benev't Society, Schenectady, Ladies' Union Aid Society (Methodist Episcopal Church Home), New York..... | 4,128 73 | ..... | 2,349 87 | ..... | 77 05 | 5 00 | 1,362 96 | 1,596 88 | 116 14 | 9,693 63 |
| Ladies' Union Relief Association, New York..... | 300 55 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 419 55 | ..... | ..... | 628 67 | 1,348 77 |
| Leake & Watts' Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 185 92 | ..... | ..... | 4,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Le Conte & St. Mary's Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Buffalo..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 876 57 | 92 01 | 100 00 | 4,324 73 | 9,580 23 |
| Madison County Orphan Asylum, Peterboro..... | 329 27 | 9,400 00 | 3,971 03 | ..... | 1,694 00 | 127 00 | ..... | 1,683 60 | 1,124 00 | 18,325 30 |
| Magdalen Benevolent Society, New York..... | 373 62 | ..... | 3,300 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,673 62 |
| ..... | 1,232 47 | ..... | ..... | 3,806 69 | ..... | 1,783 60 | 2,834 60 | ..... | 3,103 83 | 12,471 16 |

TABLE 17 — (Continued).

| INSTITUTIONS. | Cash on hand. | From the State. | From appropriations by boards of supervisors. | From appropriations by cities. | From individuals for the support of inmates. | By donations and voluntary contributions. | From interest and dividends on investments. | From loans. | From all other sources. | Total receipts. |
|--|---------------|-----------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|---|-------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Society for the Relief of Destitute Children of Seamen, Snug Harbor. | \$990 23 | ..... | ..... | \$500 00 | \$1,055 00 | \$2,847 96 | \$794 09 | \$400 00 | \$28,52 | \$10,613 79 |
| Society for the Relief of Half Orphan and Destitute Children, New York. | 900 00 | ..... | 2,719 44 | ..... | 3,303 30 | 3,930 00 | 1,938 00 | ..... | 4,000 00 | 16,788 74 |
| Society for the Relief of Respectable Aged Indigent Females, Brooklyn. | 2,044 72 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4,524 95 | 2,038 98 | 4,879 03 | ..... | 11,750 00 | 27,037 68 |
| Southern Tier Orphan's Home, Elmira. | 2,817 64 | ..... | 750 00 | ..... | 535 71 | 3,008 80 | 576 80 | 8,736 44 | 1,196 15 | 17,211 64 |
| St. Barnabas' Asylum, New York. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6,490 44 | ..... | ..... | 1,955 40 | 8,445 84 |
| St. Francis' Asylum, Buffalo. | 25 30 | ..... | 3,283 00 | 273 00 | 1,840 00 | 1,736 05 | ..... | ..... | 3,644 40 | 10,771 75 |
| St. John's Fem. Orphan Asylum, Utica. | ..... | ..... | 1,639 53 | ..... | 432 00 | 210 00 | ..... | ..... | 5,401 56 | 7,703 09 |
| St. Joseph's Asylum, New York. | 4,250 76 | ..... | ..... | 2,000 00 | 3,431 25 | 5,035 78 | 4,230 79 | ..... | 747 53 | 19,746 11 |
| St. Joseph's Asylum and House of Providence, Syracuse. | 44 29 | ..... | 2,800 95 | ..... | 747 55 | 898 17 | ..... | ..... | 5,404 38 | 9,883 34 |
| St. Joseph's German Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, Rochester. | ..... | ..... | 57 00 | 1,231 14 | 18 00 | 1,165 76 | ..... | 16,300 00 | 5,207 73 | 23,899 63 |
| St. Joseph's Home for the Aged, N. Y. | 2,902 00 | ..... | ..... | 1,000 00 | 18,434 08 | 7,387 85 | 633 42 | ..... | 2,996 83 | 33,874 18 |
| St. Joseph's Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf-Mutes, Brooklyn. | ..... | ..... | 761 69 | ..... | 685 50 | 250 00 | ..... | 177 00 | 117 20 | 2,001 39 |
| St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum, Buffalo. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Luke's Home for Indigent Christian Females, New York. | 14 28 | ..... | 4,900 00 | ..... | 335 00 | 2,150 00 | ..... | 1,000 00 | 1,328 00 | 9,727 28 |
| St. Mary's Boys' Orphan Asylum, Rochester. | 8,647 17 | ..... | ..... | 1,500 00 | 700 00 | 6,145 71 | 221 85 | ..... | 17,000 00 | 34,214 73 |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Canandaigua. | 250 00 | ..... | 248 73 | 2,176 85 | 292 35 | 3,014 00 | ..... | ..... | 711 03 | 6,442 96 |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Dunkirk. | 4,100 00 | ..... | ..... | 315 89 | 90 00 | 1,500 00 | ..... | ..... | 150 00 | 1,090 00 |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Port Jervis. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 276 12 | 49 75 | ..... | ..... | 8,413 00 | 13,378 31 |
| St. Patrick's Female Orphan Asylum, Rochester. | ..... | ..... | 291 23 | 2,728 85 | 335 75 | 389 00 | ..... | ..... | 427 50 | 4,172 33 |
| St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, Newburgh. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,000 00 | 1,600 00 | ..... | ..... | 1,000 00 | 3,600 00 |

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|----------|--------------|----------------|
| St. Peter's German Roman Catholic Association, Montreal | 59 35 | | | | | | 32 00 | 270 60 | | | | 382 75 |
| St. Stephen's Orphan Asylum, N. Y. | | | | | | | 3,600 00 | | | | 1,173 00 | 6,473 00 |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Industrial Sch ^y , New York | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, New York | 10 883 05 | | | | | 500 00 | 5,283 50 | 8,431 25 | 46 28 | 5,000 00 | 694 05 | 30,811 13 |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, Syracuse | | | | | | | 609 60 | 402 60 | | | 1,032 48 | 7,108 11 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Albany | | | | | | | 216 00 | 381 10 | 122 16 | | 8,641 76 | 10,708 59 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Buffalo | 100 60 | | | | | | 536 25 | 3,988 82 | | | 866 12 | 15,287 60 |
| St. Vincent's Home for Boys, Brooklyn | | | | | | | 539 64 | 7,391 52 | | | 3,000 00 | 7,100 00 |
| St. Vincent's Home for Boys, N. Y. | | | | | | | 100 00 | 4,000 00 | | | 2,533 31 | 13,237 02 |
| St. Vincent's Infant Orphan Asylum, Buffalo | 1,713 57 | | | | | 2,756 64 | 5,246 03 | 240 75 | | | 4,184 26 | 17,233 32 |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Albany | 27 87 | | | | | | | 909 68 | | | | 1,154 00 |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Utica | | | | | | | 446 00 | 439 50 | | | | 23,128 11 |
| Susquehanna Valley Home, Binghamton, N. Y. | 16,048 56 | | | | | | 25 00 | 354 75 | | | 1,684 38 | 7,640 89 |
| Syracuse Home Association | 2,062 85 | | | | | 282 69 | 796 88 | | | | 2,177 62 | 9,326 02 |
| Temporary Home for Friendless Women and Children, Brooklyn | 2,106 67 | | | | | | 1,072 25 | 3,772 30 | 107 18 | | 2,449 77 | 12,287 60 |
| Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children, Versailles, Troy | 9,837 83 | | | | | | | | | | 3,913 64 | 16,919 56 |
| Troy Catholic Male Orphan Asylum, Troy | | | | | | | | | | | 1,572 47 | 23,531 31 |
| Troy Orphan Asylum, Troy | 25 82 | | | | | | | 450 25 | | | | 27,286 42 |
| Truant Home, Brooklyn | 10,031 31 | | | | | | 841 17 | 2,978 82 | 1,610 21 | | 1,558 83 | 13,176 89 |
| Union Home and School for the Education of the Children of Our Volunteers, New York | | | | | | | | | | | 2,793 59 | 7,957 73 |
| Wilson's Industrial School for Girls, New York | 1,682 22 44 62 | | | | | | | | | | 1,301 68 | 4,307 00 |
| Women's Aid Society and Home for Training Young Girls, New York | 48 82 | | | | | 300 00 | | 2,757 00 | | | \$762,452 95 | \$3,389,962 48 |
| Total | \$274,151 12 | \$93,643 61 | \$272,810 56 | \$749,475 64 | \$182,518 09 | \$904,890 71 | \$203,897 80 | \$226,352 00 | | | | |

TABLE 18.
Showing the expenditures of Orphan Asylums and Homes for the year ending September 30, 1875.

| INSTITUTIONS. | For indebtedness upon real estate; principal and interest. | For other indebtedness existing October 1, 1875. | For salaries of officers, wages and labor. | For provisions and supplies. | For clothing. | For fuel and lights. | For furniture, beds and bedding. | For ordinary repairs. | For buildings and improvements. | For investments. | For all other purposes. | Total expenditures. |
|--|--|--|--|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Albany Guardian Society and Home for the Friendless. | ..... | ..... | \$923 83 | \$3,377 79 | ..... | \$691 36 | \$82 92 | \$176 56 | ..... | ..... | \$31 13 | \$5,803 59 |
| Albany Orphan Asylum. | ..... | ..... | 2,630 23 | 5,635 45 | \$2,002 63 | 705 88 | 270 43 | 1,049 49 | \$3,500 00 | ..... | 1,143 26 | 17,003 69 |
| American Female Guardian Society and Home for the Friendless, N. Y. | ..... | ..... | 8,249 39 | 10,022 62 | 844 28 | 2,115 79 | 185 70 | 404 77 | 1,144 16 | ..... | 45,177 61 | 71,144 32 |
| Association for Benefiting Children and Young Girls, New York. | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,049 77 | 721 87 | 444 58 | 284 31 | 43 40 | ..... | ..... | 1,777 24 | 14,086 36 |
| Association for the Relief of Respectable Aged Indigent Females, N. Y. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,509 34 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 5,348 00 | ..... | 10,737 66 | 24,685 00 |
| Asylum of Our Lady of Refuge, Buffalo. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 141 47 | ..... | 530 59 | 7,051 95 |
| Baptist Home for the Aged, N. Y. | 1,297 50 | 513 05 | 103 75 | 5,739 65 | 654 47 | 833 83 | 105 76 | 131 88 | ..... | ..... | 172 47 | 15,761 24 |
| Brooklyn Industrial School Association & Home for Destitute Children | ..... | ..... | 1,523 05 | 12,251 88 | 77 41 | 1,736 43 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Brooklyn Industrial School Association, Eastern District. | ..... | ..... | 5,372 79 | 7,353 12 | 1,739 10 | 1,481 78 | ..... | 1,380 85 | ..... | ..... | 4,020 20 | 29,482 82 |
| Brooklyn Nursery. | ..... | 530 24 | 1,697 45 | 1,576 59 | 222 39 | 243 30 | 21 55 | 129 06 | ..... | \$2,000 00 | 443 89 | 6,835 27 |
| Buffalo Orphan Asylum. | 7,683 40 | 2,543 45 | 497 00 | 2,334 60 | 304 56 | 582 70 | 109 17 | 253 11 | 169 00 | 1,309 60 | 1,309 60 | 15,571 59 |
| Cayuga Asylum for Destitute Children, Auburn. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,000 00 | 7,400 60 | 10,400 60 |
| Central New York Institution for Deaf Mutes, Rome. | ..... | ..... | 1,409 00 | 2,578 99 | 155 21 | 250 25 | ..... | 385 71 | 2,517 19 | 1,000 00 | 537 07 | 8,813 42 |
| Charity Foundation of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Buffalo. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Children's Aid Society, Brooklyn. | 1,225 00 | ..... | 1,037 89 | 4,805 00 | ..... | 1,373 15 | 97 53 | 597 37 | ..... | 4,500 00 | 1,056 87 | 13,407 81 |
| Children's Aid Society, New York. | 22 82 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 398 13 | 1,566 14 | ..... | 8,815 82 | 12,005 09 |
| Children's Friend Society, Albany. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 389,754 89 | 7,000 00 | 11,614 22 | 23,443 96 |
| Children's Home Society (Day Home), Troy. | ..... | ..... | 1,443 00 | 557 45 | 336 83 | 196 32 | 421 71 | 31 80 | ..... | ..... | 1,735 46 | 4,877 57 |
| Troy. | ..... | ..... | 500 00 | 950 20 | 396 00 | 140 00 | ..... | 63 53 | ..... | 1,500 00 | 70 40 | 3,539 15 |

TABLE 18-- (Continued).

| INSTITUTIONS. | For indebtedness upon real estate; principal and interest. | For other indebtedness existing October 1, 1874. | For salaries of officers, labor, wages and labor. | For provisions and supplies. | For clothing. | For fuel and lights. | For furniture, beds and bedding. | For ordinary repairs. | For buildings and improvements. | For investments. | For all other purposes. | Total expenditures. |
|---|--|--|---|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| House for Idle and Truant Children, Rochester..... | | | \$500 00 | \$2,100 00 | \$247 00 | \$391 00 | | | | | \$6,000 00 | \$6,000 00 |
| House of Mercy, New York..... | | | | | | | | | | | 92 00 | 3,300 00 |
| House of Shelter, Albany..... | | | | | | | | | | | 975 80 | 6,636 16 |
| Howard Colored Orphan Asylum, Brooklyn..... | \$236 50 | \$371 33 | 3,890 02 | 1,527 28 | 127 64 | 237 64 | \$124 61 | \$44 00 | \$373 50 | | 11,460 94 | 17,088 96 |
| Howard Mission, New York..... | 1,400 00 | | 1,237 66 | 2,717 19 | 1,170 33 | 238 72 | 102 00 | 380 51 | | \$3,500 00 | 443 09 | 9,839 50 |
| Hudson Orphan and Relief Association, Industrial School of the Sisters of Mercy, Rochester..... | 63 00 | 1,463 00 | 70 00 | 1,031 00 | 280 00 | 100 00 | 75 00 | 75 00 | 140 00 | | 250 00 | 3,577 00 |
| Ingleside Home, Buffalo..... | | 516 13 | 942 00 | 1,027 48 | 407 61 | 412 91 | 57 00 | 76 38 | | | 315 76 | 4,355 27 |
| Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf Mutes, New York..... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Institution of Mercy (East Houston street), New York..... | 1,203 89 | | 8,028 40 | 6,639 16 | 342 16 | 1,238 38 | 205 02 | 447 50 | | 8,000 00 | 10,111 88 | 38,214 39 |
| Institution of Mercy (Eighty-first street), New York..... | 3,500 00 | 4,425 73 | 1,404 00 | 4,911 60 | 641 14 | 1,200 00 | 176 65 | 614 17 | | | 1,449 88 | 18,323 17 |
| Isaac T. Hopper Home, New York..... | | | 1,119 00 | 9,505 04 | 1,179 38 | 3,474 00 | 791 60 | 824 31 | | | 5,503 48 | 22,390 81 |
| Jefferson County Orphan Asylum, Watertown..... | 9,630 40 | | 704 50 | 2,314 61 | 83 20 | 94 84 | 951 58 | | | | 1,373 46 | 15,244 59 |
| Ladies' Benevolent Society, Schenectady..... | | | 1,041 41 | 924 25 | 105 41 | 285 40 | | 208 56 | | | 198 04 | 2,763 07 |
| Ladies' Union Aid Society (Methodist Episcopal Church Home), New York..... | | | | 107 50 | 575 80 | | | | | | 111 16 | 794 46 |
| Ladies' Union Relief Association, New York..... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Leake & Watts' Orphan Asylum, New York..... | | | | 7,032 84 | | | | | | | | |
| Le Conteux St. Mary's Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Buffalo..... | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Madison County Orphan Asylum, Peterboro..... | 610 00 | 3,375 00 | 917 80 | 4,935 00 | 1,891 00 | \$1,326 00 | 1,238 00 | 273 00 | \$3,025 00 | | 755 00 | 18,395 80 |
| Mariners' Family Asylum, Staten I'd..... | | | 808 00 | 817 85 | 450 00 | 293 44 | 75 30 | 31 40 | 415 19 | | 439 95 | 3,201 63 |
| | | | 1,522 84 | 8,801 21 | | | | 654 06 | | | 467 15 | 11,435 86 |
| | | | 1,255 55 | 3,672 06 | 91 33 | 563 61 | 363 24 | 312 62 | 1,234 22 | 10,896 72 | 755 45 | 18,973 29 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Midnight Mission, New York..... | 2,530 00 | 500 00 | 860 00 | 2,590 00 | 150 00 | 493 00 | 40 00 | 120 00 | 127,760 47 | 1,323 88 | 8,709 88 |
| New York Candler Protective..... | 10,713 92 | 15,969 53 | 4,435 05 | 64,610 04 | 17,117 13 | 5,326 42 | 1,370 27 | 4,000 00 | 29,611 37 | 48,358 07 | 285,991 31 |
| New York Foundling Asylum..... | 98,184 82 | 18,820 88 | 107,546 28 | 24,515 53 | 14,076 00 | 2,625 40 | 1,500 00 | 975 00 | 8,109 01 | 3,320 00 | 365,107 05 |
| New York Infant Asylum..... | 25,347 50 | 1,400 00 | 1,400 00 | 17,941 36 | 7,022 80 | 4,022 41 | 329 19 | 459 32 | ..... | 12,116 82 | 96,233 47 |
| New York Juvenile Asylum..... | ..... | ..... | 21,808 97 | 36,740 27 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 85,940 67 |
| New York Juvenile Guardian Society | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Nursery and Child's Association | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphan and Child's Hospital, N. Y. .. | 100 00 | ..... | 10,051 41 | 42,710 81 | 2,750 75 | 8,038 45 | 8,843 25 | 11,989 77 | 11,022 96 | 5,500 00 | 5,500 00 |
| Onondaga County Orphan Asylum, | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 25,335 75 | 118,851 19 |
| Stratford..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Ontario Orphan Asylum, Canandaigua | ..... | ..... | 1,698 29 | 1,021 95 | 153 47 | 489 65 | ..... | 709 58 | ..... | 15,110 83 | 15,110 83 |
| Orphan Asylum Society, Brooklyn..... | ..... | ..... | 1,977 32 | 8,061 43 | 2,635 84 | 8,038 08 | 1,814 71 | 1,003 42 | 1,967 77 | 8,454 57 | 8,454 57 |
| Orphan Asylum Society, New York..... | ..... | ..... | 8,260 00 | 13,948 00 | 6,750 00 | 5,260 00 | 1,600 00 | 1,750 00 | 31,961 00 | 8,051 80 | 39,769 06 |
| Orphans' Home and Asylum, Oneida | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 8,032 00 | 71,061 00 |
| Holy Trinity Church, Brooklyn, E. D. .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphans' Home and Asylum of the | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Protestant Episcopal Church, N. Y. .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Orphans' Home of St. Peter's Church, | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Albany House of the Holy Saviour, | ..... | ..... | 502 17 | 429 42 | 130 73 | 148 24 | ..... | 51 04 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Cooperstown..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Oswego Orphan Asylum..... | ..... | ..... | 546 39 | 1,287 39 | 355 04 | 212 47 | 146 15 | ..... | ..... | 8 55 | 1,270 15 |
| Poughkeepsie Orphan Asylum and | ..... | ..... | 1,469 75 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 348 15 | 2,895 69 |
| Home for the Friendless..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,679 16 | 5,178 91 |
| Presbyterian Home, New York..... | ..... | ..... | 1,293 25 | 2,371 74 | 175 50 | 503 75 | 175 50 | 378 80 | 488 75 | 60 50 | 5,447 29 |
| Protestant Episcopal Church Home, | ..... | ..... | 2,089 10 | 5,188 10 | ..... | 1,451 54 | 1,517 55 | ..... | ..... | 1,182 92 | 12,440 74 |
| Rochester..... | 210 00 | ..... | 948 50 | 1,919 14 | 76 80 | 583 55 | 215 20 | 232 73 | 114 65 | ..... | ..... |
| Rochester Industrial School..... | ..... | ..... | 704 80 | 501 95 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 177 85 | 4,478 51 |
| Rochester Home of Industry..... | 490 00 | 299 75 | ..... | 1,101 96 | 705 12 | 212 70 | 80 00 | 47 25 | 3,000 00 | 2,609 09 | 3,941 22 |
| Rochester Orphan Asylum..... | 4,000 00 | ..... | 2,311 31 | 2,580 61 | 442 75 | 736 86 | 381 07 | 229 69 | ..... | 303 72 | 8,110 50 |
| Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum So- | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 250 91 | 10,833 20 |
| ciety, Brooklyn..... | 4,200 00 | 54,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum So- | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| ciety, New York for Aged Men and | 1,800 00 | ..... | 9,802 08 | 61,894 07 | 6,564 68 | 6,450 59 | 1,250 21 | 2,792 27 | 2,008 33 | 6,227 00 | 64,427 00 |
| Women, New York..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2,322 89 | 94,975 22 |
| Sheltering Arms, New York..... | 22,897 00 | ..... | 1,116 00 | 3,277 00 | ..... | 649 00 | 283 00 | ..... | ..... | 1,549 00 | 39,771 00 |
| Sheltering Arms Nursery, Protestant | ..... | ..... | 3,014 00 | 8,647 87 | 1,475 27 | 690 20 | 390 15 | 1,362 40 | 507 13 | 9,006 03 | 25,063 14 |
| Episcopal Church, Brooklyn..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Shelter for Babies, New York..... | ..... | ..... | 362 55 | 734 31 | 55 45 | 237 36 | 863 05 | 212 44 | ..... | 814 00 | 3,877 06 |
| Shelter for Respectable Girls, N. Y. .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1,035 92 | ..... | 168 32 | 77 06 | 45 55 | ..... | 2,039 00 | 3,866 25 |
| Shepherd's Fold, New York..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Sisters of the Order of St. Dominick | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| (Asylum), New York..... | 840 00 | 140 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4,200 00 | 5,180 00 |
| Society for the Protection of Desti- | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| tute Roman Catholic Child'n Buff'do | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Society for the Relief of Destitute | ..... | ..... | 4,690 00 | 4,560 00 | 1,072 50 | 791 00 | 563 23 | 216 80 | 1,690 00 | 1,067 50 | 30,916 08 |
| Children of Seamen, Snug Harbor..... | ..... | ..... | 2,994 19 | 4,982 25 | 1,072 73 | 706 41 | 60 25 | 94 14 | ..... | 655 14 | 10,571 11 |
| Society for the Relief of Half Orphan | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| and Destitute Children, New York..... | ..... | ..... | 4,500 00 | 10,879 47 | 2,176 87 | 1,075 63 | 1,077 44 | 3,275 84 | ..... | 300 00 | 23,265 25 |

TABLE 18 -- (Continued).

| INSTITUTIONS. | For indebtedness upon real estate; principal and interest. | For other indebtedness existing October 1, 1874. | For salaries of officers, wages and labor. | For provisions and supplies. | For clothing. | For fuel and lights. | For furniture, beds and bedding. | For ordinary repairs. | For buildings and improvements. | For investments. | For all other purposes. | Total expenditures. |
|---|--|--|--|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| House for Idle and Truant Children, Rochester. | | | | | | | | | | | \$6,000 00 | \$6,000 00 |
| House of Mercy, New York. | | | \$500 00 | \$2,100 00 | \$247 00 | \$361 00 | | | | | 92 00 | 3,800 00 |
| House of Shelter, Albany. | \$226 50 | \$371 33 | 2,607 86 | 1,327 28 | 127 64 | 237 64 | \$124 61 | \$44 00 | \$373 50 | | 975 80 | 6,826 16 |
| Howard Colored Orphan Asylum, Brooklyn. | 1,400 00 | | 3,890 02 | | | | | 332 00 | | | 11,666 94 | 17,088 96 |
| Howard Mission, New York. | | | 1,237 66 | 2,717 19 | 1,170 33 | 288 72 | 102 00 | 380 51 | | \$3,500 00 | 443 09 | 9,889 50 |
| Hudson Orphan and Relief Association, Industrial School of the Sisters of Mercy, Rochester. | 63 00 | 1,463 00 | 70 00 | 1,031 00 | 290 00 | 100 00 | 75 00 | 75 00 | 140 00 | | 250 00 | 3,577 00 |
| Ingleside Home, Buffalo. | | 516 13 | 942 00 | 1,027 48 | 407 61 | 412 91 | 57 00 | 76 38 | | | 315 76 | 4,935 37 |
| Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf Mutes, New York. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Institution of Mercy (East Houston street), New York. | | 1,203 89 | 8,028 40 | 6,639 16 | 342 16 | 1,236 38 | 205 02 | 447 50 | | 8,000 00 | 10,111 88 | 36,214 39 |
| Institution of Mercy (Blighty-first street), New York. | 3,500 00 | 4,425 73 | 1,404 00 | 4,911 00 | 641 14 | 1,200 00 | 176 65 | 614 17 | | | 1,449 88 | 18,323 17 |
| Isaac T. Hopper Home, New York. | | | 1,119 00 | 9,505 04 | 1,179 38 | 3,474 00 | 791 00 | 824 81 | | | 5,503 48 | 22,896 81 |
| Jefferson County Orphan Asylum, Watertown. | 9,630 40 | | 796 50 | 2,314 61 | 83 20 | 94 84 | 951 58 | | | | 1,373 46 | 15,244 59 |
| Ladies Benevolent Society, Schenectady. | | | 1,041 41 | 924 25 | 105 41 | 285 40 | | 208 56 | | | 198 04 | 2,763 07 |
| Ladies Union Aid Society (Methodist Episcopal Church Home), New York. | | | | 107 50 | 575 80 | | | | | | 111 16 | 794 46 |
| Ladies' Union Relief Association, New York. | | | | 7,032 84 | | | | | | | | |
| Leake & Watts' Orphan Asylum, New York. | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Le Conteux St. Mary's Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Buffalo. | 610 00 | 3,375 00 | 917 80 | 4,955 00 | 1,391 00 | \$1,333 00 | 1,238 00 | 213 00 | \$3,025 00 | | 755 00 | 18,305 80 |
| Madison County Orphan Asylum, Peterboro. | | | 808 00 | 817 85 | 450 00 | 293 44 | 75 30 | 31 30 | 415 19 | | 429 65 | 3,201 63 |
| Magdalen Benevolent Society, N. Y. | | | 1,522 84 | 8,801 21 | | | | 654 00 | | | | 11,455 89 |
| Mariners Family Asylum, Staten Id. | | | 1,285 55 | 3,473 06 | 91 93 | 563 61 | 353 21 | 212 52 | 1,234 22 | 10,806 72 | 755 45 | 18,975 39 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|--------------|
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 3,714 86 | ..... | 1,350 67 | 5,144 37 | 240 24 | 607 21 | 43 00 | 1,144 37 | 16,201 32 | 700 00 | 1,026 04 | 30,100 06 |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, Syracuse..... | 330 00 | 4,000 00 | 222 00 | 1,190 40 | 446 70 | 80 81 | 231 63 | 406 90 | ..... | ..... | 207 58 | 7,106 11 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Albany..... | ..... | ..... | 475 00 | 6,000 56 | 673 41 | 591 96 | 89 71 | 119 05 | 64 50 | ..... | 356 05 | 8,429 24 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | 980 00 | ..... | 710 85 | 4,858 74 | 1,222 39 | 651 36 | 290 50 | 510 00 | ..... | ..... | 1,351 13 | 10,574 97 |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | 1,752 50 | 2,754 22 | 677 51 | 6,383 35 | 1,942 56 | 541 10 | 99 80 | 129 44 | 956 66 | ..... | 90 46 | 15,327 60 |
| St. Vincent's Home for Boys, Brooklyn, St. Vincent's Home for Boys, N. Y..... | ..... | 1,000 00 | 1,400 00 | 4,200 00 | 600 00 | 870 00 | 400 00 | 550 00 | 500 00 | ..... | 3,475 00 | 12,905 00 |
| St. Vincent's Infant Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | ..... | ..... | 1,207 73 | 5,083 08 | 355 10 | 1,841 88 | 280 15 | 169 66 | 5,134 09 | ..... | 3,161 63 | 17,233 32 |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Albany..... | ..... | ..... | 337 50 | 5,048 51 | 2,906 69 | 885 88 | 602 67 | 1,124 33 | ..... | ..... | 2,224 39 | 13,219 97 |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Utica..... | 3,300 00 | ..... | 925 00 | 2,335 47 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6,500 47 |
| Susquehanna Valley Home, Bingham- ton..... | 16,021 29 | 800 00 | 1,684 93 | 2,007 53 | ..... | 306 03 | ..... | ..... | 1,153 77 | ..... | 607 12 | 22,582 67 |
| Syracuse Home Association, Temporary Home for Friendless Wo- men and Children, Brooklyn..... | ..... | ..... | 1,396 18 | 2,061 16 | ..... | 614 58 | 64 54 | 346 89 | 214 33 | ..... | 529 98 | 5,217 06 |
| Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Des- titute Indian Children, Versailles, Troy..... | ..... | 106 25 | 1,094 00 | 3,225 51 | 64 44 | 589 25 | 136 41 | 277 55 | 75 24 | ..... | 1,062 01 | 7,124 41 |
| Troy Catholic Male Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | ..... | ..... | 2,726 81 | 3,380 82 | 1,007 41 | 484 94 | 380 33 | 230 61 | 2,276 37 | ..... | 1,303 57 | 12,047 11 |
| Troy Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | 744 08 | 1,039 28 | 1,244 18 | 6,799 38 | 1,743 57 | 690 94 | 675 01 | 1,107 03 | 409 86 | 1,604 07 | 732 26 | 16,708 26 |
| Truant Home, Brooklyn, Union Home and School for the Edu- cation of the Children of our Volun- teers, New York..... | ..... | ..... | 3,323 37 | 4,980 05 | 2,697 86 | 403 32 | 403 32 | 684 07 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 12,287 67 |
| Utica Orphan Asylum, Wilson's Industrial School for Girls, New York..... | ..... | ..... | 4,961 88 | 9,068 40 | 2,462 58 | 1,677 70 | 1,036 00 | 4,012 91 | ..... | ..... | 249 75 | 23,409 22 |
| Women's Aid Society and Home for Training Young Girls, New York..... | 3,150 00 | ..... | 7,781 73 | 6,449 36 | 1,477 70 | 883 29 | ..... | 519 93 | 1,932 42 | ..... | 2,620 71 | 24,865 14 |
| Total..... | 400,709 53 | 147,525 60 | 385,175 66 | 761,582 07 | 134,128 73 | 110,974 64 | 44,557 61 | 82,613 42 | 394,452 63 | 79,488 16 | 621,774 00 | 3,162,983 05 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-------|-----|-----|----|-----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Children's Home Society (Day Home), Troy | 60 | 145 | 225 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 38 | 46 | 3 | 50 | 1 | 135 | 4 | 6 | 49 | 35 | 90 |
| Church Charity Foundation of Long Island, Brooklyn | 103 | 20 | 125 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 38 | 46 | 3 | 50 | 1 | 17 | 4 | 6 | 34 | 35 | 109 |
| Colored Home, New York | 206 | 541 | 747 | 31 | 57 | 3 | 57 | 2 | 2 | 418 | 133 | 651 | 63 | 122 | 6 | 6 | 196 |
| Colored Orphan Asylum, New York | 283 | 77 | 360 | 57 | 5 | 3 | 57 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 8 | 99 | 83 | 178 | 83 | 281 | 281 |
| Convent of the Sisters of Mercy, Brooklyn | 186 | 42 | 228 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 57 | 3 | 2 | 13 | 8 | 24 | 72 | 72 | 132 | 204 | 204 |
| Davenport Institution for Female Orphan Children, Bath | 47 | 4 | 51 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 43 | 47 | 47 |
| Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Orphan Home, Buffalo | 89 | 16 | 105 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 18 | 6 | 6 | 43 | 82 | 87 |
| Excelsior Farm, Rochester | 30 | 53 | 83 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Female Christian Home, New York | 324 | 794 | 1,118 | 14 | 276 | 20 | 276 | 38 | 1 | 428 | 14 | 790 | 48 | 30 | 167 | 113 | 328 |
| Five Points House of Industry, New York | 78 | 39 | 117 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 41 | 3 | 46 | 4 | 15 | 18 | 34 | 71 |
| German Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, Buffalo | 83 | 83 | 83 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 43 | 43 | 36 | 79 | 79 |
| German Benevolent and Orphan Asylum Society, N. Y. | 201 | 85 | 286 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 22 | 11 | 6 | 159 | 88 | 264 |
| Home for Aged and Infirm Hebrews, New York | 50 | 10 | 60 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 44 | 44 | 57 | 57 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Albany | 28 | 75 | 103 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 21 | 40 | 42 | 42 | 82 | 82 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Brooklyn | 174 | 48 | 222 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 28 | 37 | 73 | 112 | 112 | 112 | 185 | 185 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, New York | 145 | 28 | 173 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 15 | 25 | 62 | 86 | 86 | 148 | 148 |
| Home for the Aged of the Little Sisters of the Poor, Troy | 20 | 78 | 98 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 6 | 16 | 40 | 42 | 42 | 82 | 82 |
| Home for the Blind, New York | 37 | 7 | 44 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 17 | 19 | 19 | 36 | 36 |
| Home for Christian Care, New York | 22 | 10 | 82 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 3 | 12 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 20 |
| Home for the Friendless, Auburn | 18 | 142 | 160 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 143 | 1 | 142 | 18 | 18 | 7 | 18 | 18 |
| Home for the Friendless, Buffalo | 17 | 31 | 31 | 2 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Home for the Friendless, Lockport | 45 | 23 | 88 | 13 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 5 | 25 | 25 | 25 | 28 | 15 | 43 |
| Home for the Friendless, Newburgh | 85 | 206 | 290 | 13 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 186 | 5 | 205 | 63 | 63 | 2 | 2 | 55 |
| Home for the Friendless, Rochester | 9 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Home for the Friendless, Schenectady | 89 | 6 | 43 | 2 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 30 | 1 | 87 | 42 | 42 | 2 | 2 | 42 |
| Home for the Friendless, Utica | 26 | 82 | 108 | 22 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Home for the Friendless, New York | 2 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Home for the Friendless, of Northern New York, Plattsburgh | 12 | 340 | 519 | 212 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 2 | 294 | 162 | 162 | 3 | 3 | 8 |
| House of Good Shepherd, Brooklyn | 129 | 373 | 633 | 260 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 197 | 11 | 495 | 355 | 355 | 6 | 6 | 205 |
| House of the Good Shepherd, New York | 562 | 57 | 61 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 22 | 22 | 22 | 21 | 45 |
| House of the Good Shepherd, Soney Point | 21 | 44 | 65 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 30 | 9 | 9 | 15 | 21 | 45 |
| House of the Good Shepherd, Utica | 21 | 44 | 65 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 30 | 9 | 9 | 15 | 21 | 45 |
| House for Idle and Truant Children, Rochester | 14 | 53 | 67 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 41 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 6 | 26 |
| House of Mercy, New York | 14 | 53 | 67 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 41 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 6 | 26 |
| House of Shelter, Albany | 14 | 53 | 67 | 2 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 41 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 6 | 26 |
| Howard Colver Orphan Asylum, Brooklyn | 25 | 14 | 69 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 51 | 24 | 63 |
| Howard Mission, New York | 55 | 206 | 291 | 21 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 103 | 2 | 217 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 6 | 14 |
| Hudson Orphan and Relief Association | 53 | 19 | 22 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 24 | 1 | 24 | 51 | 51 | 33 | 18 | 61 |
| Industrial School of the Sisters of Mercy, Rochester | 25 | 15 | 43 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 11 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Indeside Home, Buffalo | 21 | 51 | 72 | 7 | 7 | 22 | 22 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 44 | 26 | 26 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf Mutes, New York | 92 | 13 | 105 | 1 | 19 | 18 | 18 | 8 | 11 | 144 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 60 | 49 | 43 | 62 |
| Institution of Mercy (East Houston Street), New York | 89 | 197 | 286 | 1 | 22 | 18 | 18 | 8 | 11 | 144 | 3 | 205 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 21 | 81 |

TABLE 19 — (Continued).

| INSTITUTIONS. | Number in the institution 1st Oct. 1, 1874. | Received during the year. | Total supported. | DISCHARGED. | | | | | | | | | | REMAINING OCT. 1, 1875. | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|--------|------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|
| | | | | By adoption. | By indenture. | Returned to parents or guardians. | Left without permis- sion. | Transferred to other in- stitutions. | Sent out of the State. | Otherwise discharged. | Died. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Boys under 16 years. | Girls under 16 years. | Total. | |
| Institution of Mercy (81st street), New York | 198 | 71 | 269 | 5 | .. | 41 | .. | 6 | .. | 20 | 1 | 73 | 1 | 21 | .. | 174 | 196 | |
| Isaac T. Hopper Home, New York | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| Jefferson County Orphan Asylum, Watertown | 31 | 13 | 44 | 3 | .. | 5 | .. | 1 | .. | 8 | 1 | 18 | .. | .. | 20 | 6 | 29 | |
| Ladies' Benevolent Society, Schenectady | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| Ladies' Union Aid Society (M. E. Church Home), New York | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| Ladies' Union Relief Association, New York | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| Leake and Watts' Orphan Asylum, New York | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| Le Conteulx St. Mary's Deaf and Dumb Asylum, Buff-alo .. | 80 | 12 | 92 | .. | 14 | 11 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 12 | .. | .. | 45 | 35 | 80 | |
| Madison County Orphan Asylum, Peterboro | 35 | 22 | 57 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 31 | 4 | 61 | |
| Magdalen Benevolent Society, New York | 60 | 23 | 263 | .. | .. | 20 | 6 | 44 | 2 | 160 | 4 | 233 | .. | 61 | .. | .. | 30 | |
| Mariner's Family Asylum, Staten Island | 47 | 3 | 50 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| Mariner's Mission, New York | 21 | 308 | 329 | .. | .. | 30 | 47 | 68 | .. | 164 | 4 | 309 | .. | 20 | 1,341 | 603 | 1,944 | |
| Midnight Mission, New York | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| New York Catholic Protector | 1,842 | 941 | 2,783 | .. | 84 | 643 | 79 | 19 | 4 | 3 | 406 | 619 | .. | .. | 660 | 780 | 1,440 | |
| New York Foundling Asylum | 1,191 | 898 | 2,089 | 25 | 151 | 102 | 19 | 1 | .. | 177 | 43 | 354 | .. | 110 | 58 | 80 | 248 | |
| New York Infant Asylum | 188 | 414 | 602 | 12 | 2 | 102 | 19 | 1 | 153 | .. | 1 | 642 | .. | .. | 522 | 101 | 623 | |
| New York Juvenile Asylum | 647 | 618 | 1,265 | .. | 2 | 485 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| New York Juvenile Guardian Society | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| New York Seamen's Association | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | |
| Nursery and Child's Hospital, New York | 668 | 1,294 | 1,962 | 33 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,030 | 173 | 1,236 | .. | 225 | 223 | 970 | 736 | |
| Onondaga County Orphan Asylum, Syracuse | 108 | 107 | 215 | 10 | .. | 81 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 71 | 61 | 123 | |
| Ontario Orphan Asylum, Canandaigua | 35 | 37 | 72 | .. | .. | 14 | 3 | .. | .. | 6 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 29 | 18 | 47 | |
| Orphan Asylum Society, Brooklyn | 228 | 166 | 394 | 1 | 8 | .. | .. | 1 | 11 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 103 | 111 | |
| Orphan Asylum Society, New York | 154 | 60 | 214 | .. | 15 | 11 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3 | 30 | .. | 1 | 113 | 111 | 154 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Orphan's Home and Asylum of the Holy Trinity Church, Brooklyn, E. D. | 71 | 10 | 81 | .. | 4 | 6 | 1 | ..... | 2 | 1 | ..... | .. | 11 | .. | .. | 40 | 70 |
| Orphan's Home and Asylum of the Protestant Episco- pal Church, New York | ..... | 17 | 13 | 30 | .. | .. | 4 | .. | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | 9 | .... | .. | .. | 21 |
| Orphan's Home of St. Peter's Church Albany | 23 | 22 | 45 | 46 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 13 | 1 | 8 | 35 | 32 |
| Orphan House of the Holy Saviour, Cooperstown | 46 | 50 | 96 | 16 | 24 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 41 | .. | .. | 20 | 56 |
| Oswego Orphan Asylum | ..... | 45 | 29 | 74 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 8 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 32 | .. | .. | 31 | 11 |
| Poughkeepsie Orphan House and Home for the Friend- less | 45 | 29 | 74 | 1 | 4 | 21 | 8 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 32 | .. | .. | 31 | 11 |
| Presbyterian Home, New York | 43 | 6 | 49 | 3 | 10 | 15 | 1 | 7 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 | 6 | 43 | 29 | 6 |
| Protestant Episcopal Church Home, Rochester | 48 | 10 | 38 | 4 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 15 | 11 | 65 | 43 |
| Rochester Industrial School | 90 | 58 | 148 | 4 | 22 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 10 | 3 | 40 | 43 | 108 |
| Rochester Home of Industry | 54 | 31 | 85 | .. | 22 | .. | .. | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | 13 | 8 | 29 | 37 |
| Rochester Orphan Asylum | 75 | 78 | 153 | 6 | 3 | 45 | 1 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 13 | 70 | 85 | 51 | 32 |
| Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum Society, Brooklyn | 1,172 | 270 | 1,442 | 7 | 22 | 134 | 4 | 10 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 35 | 21 | 53 | 503 | 706 |
| Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum Society, New York | 138 | 5 | 43 | .. | 8 | 86 | .. | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 8 | 19 | 63 | 38 |
| Samaritan Home for Aged Men and Women, New York | 153 | 83 | 226 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 85 | .. | .. | .. | 133 |
| Sheltering Arms Nursery, E. Church, Brooklyn | ..... | 35 | 49 | 30 | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 31 | 9 | 9 | 16 |
| Shelter for Babies, New York | 14 | 35 | 49 | 30 | .. | .. | .. | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 31 | 9 | 9 | 16 |
| Shelter for Rabies, New York | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Shepherd's Fold, New York | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Sisters of the Order of St. Dominick (Asylum) New York | 400 | 90 | 490 | .. | .. | 6 | .. | .. | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 | .. | 80 | 424 | 484 |
| Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catho- lic Children, Buffalo | 131 | 103 | 234 | 9 | 6 | 55 | 7 | 10 | 5 | 3 | .. | 85 | .. | .. | .. | 139 | 330 |
| Society for the Relief of Destitute Children of Seamen, Saug Harbor | 96 | 31 | 127 | .. | 2 | 18 | .. | .. | 7 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 51 | 100 |
| Society for the Relief of Half Orphan and Destitute Children, New York | 220 | 64 | 284 | 1 | 83 | 2 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 102 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 102 | 80 |
| Society for the Relief of Respectable Aged Indigent Females, Brooklyn | 66 | 9 | 75 | .. | .. | .. | 6 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9 | 9 | 66 | .. | .. | 66 |
| Southern Tier Orphans' Home, Elmira | 45 | 64 | 169 | 20 | 39 | 322 | .. | 1 | 1 | 863 | .. | 62 | 2 | 27 | 1 | 33 | 12 |
| St. Barnabas House, New York | 45 | 64 | 169 | 20 | 39 | 322 | .. | 1 | 1 | 863 | .. | 62 | 2 | 27 | 1 | 33 | 12 |
| St. Francis Asylum, Buffalo | 96 | 29 | 135 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 495 | .. | .. | .. | 1,000 | 38 | 47 | .. | 14 | 43 |
| St. John's Female Orphan Asylum, Utica | 112 | 28 | 140 | 5 | 13 | 13 | .. | 29 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 31 | .. | .. | 109 | 109 | 109 |
| St. Joseph's Asylum, New York | 194 | 79 | 273 | 6 | 8 | 44 | 1 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 6 | 69 | 63 | 6 | 106 | 204 |
| St. Joseph's Asylum and House of Providence, Syracuse | 80 | 79 | 159 | 3 | 8 | 2 | .. | .. | 38 | 8 | 54 | 16 | 19 | 63 | 2 | 105 | 105 |
| St. Joseph's German Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, Rochester | 32 | 33 | 65 | 1 | .. | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 | 9 | .. | 219 | 17 | 39 | 219 |
| St. Joseph's Home for the Aged, New York | 166 | 104 | 270 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 32 | 19 | 51 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| St. Joseph's Institution for the Improved Instruction of Deaf Mutes, Brooklyn | 103 | 50 | 153 | 7 | 3 | 15 | .. | 4 | 3 | .. | .. | 8 | .. | .. | .. | 118 | 118 |
| St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum, Buffalo | ..... | 63 | 69 | 19 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 65 | 65 |
| St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum, Buffalo | ..... | 113 | 28 | 141 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 117 | 117 |
| St. Mary's Boys' Orphan Asylum, Rochester | 18 | 5 | 23 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 3 | .. | 6 | .. | .. | .. | 17 | 17 |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Canandaigua | 15 | 14 | 29 | 11 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 | .. | .. | 1 | 16 | 16 |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Dunkirk | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Fort Jervis | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |

TABLE 19 — (Concluded).

| INSTITUTIONS. | Number in the Institution, October 1, 1874. | Received during the year. | Total supported. | DISCHARGED. | | | | | | | | | | REMAINING OCT. 1, 1876. | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------|------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------|--|
| | | | | By adoption. | By indenture. | Returned to parents or guardians. | Left without permis- sion. | Transferred to other institutions. | Sent out of the State. | Otherwise discharged. | Died. | Total. | Men. | Women. | Boys under 16 years. | Girls under 16 years. | Total. | |
| St. Patrick's Female Orphan Asylum, Rochester..... | 104 | 24 | 128 | ..... | ..... | 35 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 10 | 3 | 48 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 80 | 80 | |
| St. Patrick's Orphan Asylum, Newburgh..... | 10 | 4 | 14 | ..... | ..... | 4 | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 8 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 6 | 6 | |
| St. Peter's German Roman Catholic Association, Rondout..... |  |  |  | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| St. Stephen's Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 107 | 75 | 182 | 4 | ..... | 41 | ..... | 5 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 51 | 45 | ..... | ..... | 89 | 131 | |
| St. Thomas' Orphan Asylum, Batavia..... |  |  |  | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Industrial School, New York..... |  |  |  | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, New York..... | 116 | 55 | 171 | ..... | ..... | 36 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 88 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| St. Vincent de Paul's Orphan Asylum, Syracuse | 120 | 30 | 150 | 1 | ..... | 14 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 | ..... | 19 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 131 | 131 | |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Albany..... | 129 | 23 | 152 | ..... | ..... | 11 | ..... | 6 | ..... | 4 | ..... | 23 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 128 | 129 | |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | 118 | 85 | 203 | 10 | ..... | 52 | 1 | 3 | ..... | 7 | 9 | 82 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 101 | 121 | |
| St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | 108 | 60 | 168 | 8 | 6 | 11 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 9 | 1 | 35 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 133 | 133 | |
| St. Vincent's Home for Boys, Brooklyn..... |  |  |  | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| St. Vincent's Home for Boys, New York..... | 180 | 2,415 | 2,595 | 6 | ..... | 50 | ..... | 2 | ..... | 2,346 | 1 | 2,405 | 190 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 180 | |
| St. Vincent's Infant Orphan Asylum, Buffalo..... | 78 | 171 | 249 | 9 | 43 | 1 | ..... | 14 | 1 | ..... | 95 | 163 | 86 | ..... | ..... | 41 | 45 | |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Albany..... | 110 | 25 | 135 | 4 | ..... | 21 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 27 | 108 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 108 | |
| St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Utica..... | 44 | 26 | 70 | 1 | 4 | 15 | ..... | 4 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 25 | 45 | ..... | ..... | 45 | 45 | |
| Susquehanna Valley Home, Binghamton..... | 54 | 23 | 80 | ..... | 7 | 8 | 2 | 1 | ..... | 1 | 2 | 20 | 44 | ..... | ..... | 16 | 60 | |
| Susquehanna Valley Home, Binghamton..... | 44 | 84 | 128 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 85 | 2 | 87 | 41 | ..... | ..... | 41 | 41 | |
| Syracuse Home Association |  |  |  | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| Temporary Home for Friendless Women and Chil- dren, Brooklyn..... | 51 | 810 | 861 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 632 | 3 | 817 | 19 | 3 | 22 | 44 | 44 | |
| Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children, Versailles..... | 104 | 14 | 118 | ..... | ..... | 29 | 5 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 9 | 43 | 4 | ..... | 39 | 31 | 75 | |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------|--------|--------|-----|-----|-------|-----|-------|-----|-------|-------|--------|
| Troy Catholic Male Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | 120 | 98 | 228 | 0 | 54 | 11 | 1 | 4 | 69 | 159 | 159 | 159 |
| Troy Orphan Asylum, Troy..... | 58 | 65 | 153 | 17 | 31 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 43 | 55 | 55 | 105 |
| Truant Home, Brooklyn..... | 91 | 127 | 218 | .. | 125 | .. | .. | .. | 134 | 84 | 84 | 84 |
| Union Home and School for the Education of the Children of our Volunteers, New York..... | 168 | 74 | 242 | .. | 71 | .. | 1 | 1 | 73 | 102 | 102 | 169 |
| Utica Orphan Asylum..... | 99 | 53 | 135 | .. | 32 | .. | 1 | 1 | 69 | 99 | 99 | 93 |
| Wilson's Industrial School for Girls, New York..... | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Women's Aid Society and Home for Training Young Girls, New York..... | 12 | 134 | 146 | .. | 9 | .. | 6 | 119 | 134 | .. | .. | 12 |
| Total..... | 16,063 | 19,396 | 35,489 | 463 | 890 | 5,326 | 358 | 1,114 | 316 | 9,047 | 1,255 | 18,239 |
| | | | | | | | | | | 423 | 8,106 | 7,652 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 6,069 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | 17,250 |

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

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| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| St. Luke's Hospital, New York | 320,000 00 | 184,700 00 | 584,700 00 | | 15,000 00 | | 15,000 00 |
| St. Mary's Female Hospital, Brooklyn | 40,000 00 | | 40,000 00 | | 3,500 00 | | 3,500 00 |
| St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester | 235,000 00 | ..... | 235,000 00 | ..... | 15,147 43 | ..... | 15,147 43 |
| St. Mary's Hospital for Children, New York ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Mary's Lying-In Hospital, Buffalo | 82,775 00 | 400 00 | 83,175 00 | ..... | 1,264 68 | ..... | 1,264 68 |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Albany | 100,000 00 | ..... | 100,000 00 | ..... | 3,000 00 | ..... | 3,000 00 |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Brooklyn | 30,000 00 | ..... | 30,000 00 | ..... | 8,500 00 | ..... | 8,500 00 |
| St. Vincent's Hospital, New York | 227,225 00 | 12,425 70 | 239,750 70 | ..... | 2,649 71 | ..... | 2,649 71 |
| S. K. Smith Infirmary, Edgewater, S. I. | 5,000 00 | ..... | 5,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Thanksgiving Hospital, Cooperstown ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Troy Hospital, Troy | 200,000 00 | 750 00 | 200,750 00 | ..... | 12,728 93 | ..... | 12,728 93 |
| Woman's Hospital of the State of New York, New York ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Total | \$5,734,912 88 | \$1,213,902 62 | \$6,948,815 44 | \$310,666 04 | \$297,627 70 | \$518,804 64 | \$518,804 64 |

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

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| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------|--------------|
| New York Ophthalmic and Aural Institute, New York..... | 1,822 55 | 1,500 00 | 10,890 86 | 4,745 59 | 128 28 | | | | 17,126 45 |
| New York Ophthalmic Hospital, New York..... | ..... | 500 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 11,870 84 |
| New York State Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, New York..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| New York Hospital for the Treatment of Cancer, New York..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Presbyterian Hospital, New York..... | 397 35 | ..... | 5,057 59 | 8,504 12 | 17,674 23 | 7,675 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Roosevelt Hospital, New York..... | 13,411 36 | ..... | 7,428 55 | 83 55 | 24,138 34 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 41,810 35 |
| Rochester City Hospital, Rochester..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 113,559 49 |
| St. Barnabas' Hospital, Poughkeepsie..... | 1,410 63 | ..... | 217 00 | 1,034 47 | 17 50 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Elizabeth's Hospital, New York..... | 200 00 | 700 00 | 6,520 00 | 250 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3,551 06 |
| St. Elizabeth's Hospital and Home, Utica..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 7,870 00 |
| St. Francis' Hospital, New York..... | 245 35 | ..... | 2,628 42 | 4,701 81 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. John's Hospital, Brooklyn..... | ..... | 3,000 00 | 900 00 | 15,003 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. John's Riverside Hospital, Yonkers..... | 448 37 | ..... | 1,350 00 | 600 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Joseph's Hospital, Syracuse..... | ..... | 180 18 | 615 00 | 3,201 02 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Luke's Hospital, New York..... | 6,151 81 | 1,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Mary's Hospital, Brooklyn..... | 400 50 | 1,500 00 | 11,871 85 | 18,021 42 | 12,554 96 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester..... | 214 71 | 1,500 00 | 7,453 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Mary's Hospital for Children, New York..... | ..... | 12,385 82 | 5,552 80 | 419 08 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Mary's Lying-in Hospital, Buffalo..... | 60 42 | 1,702 11 | ..... | 5,481 54 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Albany..... | 1,713 57 | 2,756 64 | 5,246 06 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Brooklyn..... | 76 00 | 2,000 00 | 4,531 71 | 12,895 68 | ..... | 1,030 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| St. Vincent's Hospital, New York..... | 85 00 | 5,500 00 | 818 00 | 11,044 73 | ..... | 4,000 00 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| S. R. Smith Infirmary, Edgewater, S. I..... | 292 27 | 2,500 00 | 13,358 90 | 13,358 90 | 561 53 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Thanksgiving Hospital, Cooperstown, Troy..... | 690 22 | ..... | 166 00 | 3,288 47 | 8 07 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Troy Hospital, Troy..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| Woman's Hospital of the State of New York, New York..... | 3,138 29 | 1,000 00 | ..... | 7,710 00 | 4,438 80 | 6,068 73 | 68,926 94 | ..... | 91,270 76 |
| Total..... | \$69,058 22 | \$101,972 21 | \$137,675 17 | \$223,610 78 | \$88,780 87 | \$27,919 80 | \$246,353 18 | ..... | \$824,579 33 |

| New York Hospital for the Treatment of Cancer, New York | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| Presbyterian Hospital, New York | 504 28 | 8,000 28 | 8,727 76 | 6,240 34 | 1,084 14 | 328 00 | 1,003 75 | 2,572 16 | 2,000 00 | 9,242 30 | 40,983 17 | |
| Roosevelt Hospital, New York | | 15,031 93 | 34,224 71 | 10,988 21 | 6,515 79 | 2,524 48 | 1,324 17 | 7,113 52 | | 4,034 46 | 82,367 27 | |
| Rochester City Hospital, Rochester | | 702 65 | | 924 94 | 184 00 | 169 10 | 66 25 | 675 01 | | 251 25 | 3,046 69 | |
| St. Barnabas' Hospital, Poughkeepsie | | | | | 194 00 | 680 00 | 300 00 | | | 380 00 | 10,534 00 | |
| St. Elizabeth's Hospital, New York | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Elizabeth's Hospital and Home, Utica | 417 73 | 376 64 | 2,858 39 | 739 42 | 412 91 | 405 90 | 379 50 | 279 55 | | 605 70 | 7,394 74 | |
| St. Francis' Hospital, New York | 4,497 50 | 1,880 00 | 6,740 00 | 2,834 05 | 526 44 | 957 00 | 706 21 | | | 540 00 | 19,501 33 | |
| St. John's Hospital, Brooklyn | | 1,380 00 | 1,800 00 | 350 00 | 300 00 | 300 00 | | | | | 3,450 00 | |
| St. John's Riverside Hospital, Yonkers | | 1,495 10 | 1,795 55 | 630 55 | 673 82 | 25 12 | 199 35 | | 1,000 00 | 1,104 78 | 6,124 27 | |
| St. Joseph's Hospital, Syracuse | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Luke's Hospital, New York | 1,290 00 | 17,009 66 | 23,038 18 | 7,006 73 | 3,159 84 | 1,025 44 | 5,424 20 | | | 5,896 57 | 63,819 68 | |
| St. Mary's Female Hospital, Brooklyn | 352 00 | 686 00 | 5,286 00 | 220 00 | 1,035 00 | | | 1,061 00 | | 1,025 00 | 11,844 00 | |
| St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester | 1,235 21 | 2,225 73 | 10,821 81 | 3,510 53 | 633 62 | 172 85 | 89 36 | 5,481 96 | | 167 75 | 25,137 88 | |
| St. Mary's Hospital for Children, N.Y. | | 500 00 | | 394 72 | 153 20 | 93 82 | 187 22 | | 1,000 00 | 4,570 91 | 17,204 97 | |
| St. Mary's Lying-in Hospital, Buffalo | 2,030 00 | 6,000 00 | 1,297 73 | 1,841 88 | 325 20 | 280 15 | 169 60 | 5,134 00 | | 2,836 63 | 17,233 32 | |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Albany | | 2,500 00 | 1,063 50 | 1,127 06 | 1,824 39 | 964 26 | 296 75 | 7,796 30 | | 2,293 77 | 20,495 54 | |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Brooklyn | | | 1,438 32 | 1,125 20 | 977 41 | 1,362 88 | 927 27 | 3,200 00 | | | | |
| St. Vincent's Hospital, New York | 7,250 00 | 3,010 88 | 1,895 40 | 1,254 70 | 1,025 00 | 1,000 00 | 608 72 | 456 47 | | 9,050 47 | 37,675 45 | |
| S. R. Smith's Infirmary, Edgewater, S. I. | | | | 662 22 | 1,472 04 | | | | | 301 27 | 3,403 60 | |
| Thanksgiving Hospital, Cooperstown | | 1,132 00 | 1,361 67 | 282 50 | 316 16 | 10 00 | | | | | | |
| Troy Hospital, Troy | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Woman's Hospital of the State of New York, N. Y. | | 6,153 55 | 11,250 45 | 797 63 | 3,142 94 | 538 77 | 2,221 15 | 40,738 54 | 13,167 70 | 12,529 65 | 90,540 38 | |
| Total | 38,421 96 | 24,571 88 | 137,906 41 | 272,716 64 | 7,033 11 | 71,518 64 | 38,479 97 | 19,596 15 | 33,150 22 | 80,453 25 | 24,987 70 | 103,374 91 |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|--------|-------|-------|----|
| New York Hospital for the Treatment of Cancer, New York | 30 | 293 | 323 | 248 | 10,592 | 164 | 67 | 20 | 4 | 30 | 286 | 24 | 14 | 38 |
| Freebsterian Hospital, New York | 183 | 1,406 | 1,550 | 1,427 | 50,222 | 736 | 874 | 123 | 164 | 1,397 | 99 | 63 | 103 | |
| Roosevelt Hospital, New York | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Rochester City Hospital, Rochester | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Barnabas' Hospital, Poughkeepsie | 14 | 55 | 60 | 60 | 1,890 | 44 | 0 | 2 | | 11 | 66 | 3 | 3 | |
| St. Elizabeth's Hospital, New York | 58 | 670 | 728 | 360 | 3,993 | 324 | 100 | 102 | | 64 | 670 | 16 | 42 | |
| St. Elizabeth's Hospital and Home, Utica | 34 | 180 | 223 | 118 | 7,498 | 123 | 40 | 11 | 2 | 222 | 188 | 10 | 15 | |
| St. Francis' Hospital, New York | 174 | 1,553 | 1,720 | 1,685 | 63,003 | 961 | 107 | 64 | 12 | 212 | 1,536 | 104 | 99 | |
| St. John's Hospital, Brooklyn | 17 | 91 | 108 | 62 | 7,000 | 63 | 11 | | 1 | 11 | 86 | 10 | 22 | |
| St. John's Riverside Hospital, Yonkers | 10 | 140 | 180 | 123 | 3,440 | 60 | 32 | 16 | 7 | 14 | 138 | 7 | 15 | |
| St. Joseph Hospital, Syracuse | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| St. Luke's Hospital, New York | 149 | 995 | 1,054 | 782 | 41,347 | 530 | 253 | 22 | 124 | 618 | 69 | 67 | 130 | |
| St. Mary's Hospital, Brooklyn | 166 | 550 | 716 | 290 | 27,894 | 200 | 56 | 97 | 5 | 54 | 502 | 123 | 25 | |
| St. Mary's Hospital, Rochester | 17 | 75 | 92 | 62 | 4,712 | 45 | 8 | 7 | | 3 | 101 | 10 | 24 | |
| St. Mary's Hospital for Children, New York | 42 | 107 | 149 | 124 | 5,345 | 98 | | | | 3 | 101 | 10 | 23 | |
| St. Mary's Lying-in Hospital, Buffalo | 23 | 314 | 337 | 216 | 8,138 | 105 | 105 | 10 | 1 | 28 | 314 | 48 | 48 | |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Albany | 135 | 1,249 | 1,384 | 1,355 | 43,922 | 885 | 204 | 35 | 5 | 127 | 1,256 | 14 | 9 | |
| St. Peter's Hospital, Brooklyn | 17 | 77 | 138 | 815 | 11,769 | 875 | 215 | 54 | | 94 | 738 | 27 | 50 | |
| St. Vincent's Hospital, New York | 7 | 131 | 138 | | | 99 | 19 | | | 11 | 129 | 5 | 4 | |
| St. R. Smith Infirmary, Edgewater, S. I. | | | | | | | | | | | | | 9 | |
| Thanksgiving Hospital, Cooperstown | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Troy Hospital, Troy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Woman's Hospital of the State of New York, New York | 43 | 296 | 339 | 96 | | 101 | 128 | 35 | | 15 | 279 | | 60 | |
| Total | 1,943 | 14,242 | 16,185 | 10,991 | 529,305 | 8,495 | 3,186 | 1,022 | 58 | 1,445 | 14,186 | 1,045 | 954 | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1,999 | |

TABLE 24.
Showing the value of the property of Dispensaries, and their indebtedness, September 30, 1875.

| INSTITUTIONS. | Real estate. | Personal property. | Total. | INDEBTEDNESS. | | |
|--|--------------|--------------------|--------|---------------|-----------|--------|
| | | | | Real. | Personal. | Total. |
| Albany Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, Albany | | | | | | |
| * Albany City Homœopathic Dispensary | | | | | | |
| Albany Hospital Dispensary, Albany | | | | | | |
| Atlantic Avenue Dispensary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| Bond Street Homœopathic Dispensary and Tompkins Square Branch, N. Y. | | | | | | |
| Brooklyn Central Dispensary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| Brooklyn City Dispensary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| Brooklyn Eclectic Dispensary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| Brooklyn Homœopathic Dispensary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| + Brooklyn Homœopathic Hospital Dispensary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| Brooklyn Orthopedic Infirmary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| Buffalo City Dispensary, Buffalo | | | | | | |
| Buffalo Homœopathic Dispensary, Buffalo | | | | | | |
| Central Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| Demilt Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| Dispensary of the Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| Dispensary of the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women, N. Y. | | | | | | |
| Dispensary of the Troy Hospital, Troy | | | | | | |
| Eastern District Dispensary, Brooklyn, E. D. | | | | | | |
| Eastern Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| Eclectic Medical Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| Free Medical and Surgical Dispensary Association, Buffalo | | | | | | |
| Gates Avenue Homœopathic Dispensary, Brooklyn | | | | | | |
| German Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| Harlem Dispensary, Harlem, New York | | | | | | |
| Hoffman Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| Homœopathic Medical College Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| Infirmary (Dispensary) of the New York College of Dentistry, New York | | | | | | |
| Manhattan Dispensary, Manhattanville, New York | | | | | | |
| Morrisania Homœopathic Dispensary, Morrisania | | | | | | |
| New York Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| New York Dispensary for Diseases of the Skin, New York | | | | | | |
| New York Dispensary for Diseases of the Throat and Chest, New York | | | | | | |
| New York Ear Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |
| New York Free Dispensary for Sick Children, New York | | | | | | |
| New York Homœopathic Dispensary, New York | | | | | | |

| | | | | | |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|
| New York Infirmary Dispensary, New York..... | \$12,400 00 | 20,000 00 | 42,600 00 | 500 00 | 500 00 |
| Northern Dispensary, New York..... | | 8,050 00 | 8,050 00 | 1,578 15 | 1,578 15 |
| North-eastern Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| North-western Homoeopathic Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Orthopedic Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| † St. Elizabeth Dispensary, Utica..... | | | | | |
| St. Peter's Hospital Dispensary, Albany..... | 5,000 00 | | 5,000 00 | | |
| St. Peter's Hospital Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | | 635 00 | 635 00 | | |
| West Side German Dispensary..... | | 400 00 | 400 00 | 85 00 | 85 00 |
| Western Dispensary for Women and Children, New York..... | | 700 00 | 700 00 | 217 20 | 217 20 |
| Yorkville Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Total..... | \$109,550 00 | \$130,401 24 | \$239,951 24 | \$13,293 04 | 24,293 04 |

* Included with Albany City Homoeopathic Hospital.
 † Included with Brooklyn Homoeopathic Hospital.

* Included with New York Infirmary.
 † Included with St. Elizabeth Hospital.

[illegible]

TABLE 27.
Showing the number of beneficiary patients treated during the year ending September 30, 1875.

| INSTITUTIONS. | At the dispensary. | At their residences. | Number of visits made. | Number of prescriptions dispensed. | Number of persons vaccinated. |
|--|--------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Albany Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary, Albany..... | | | | | |
| Albany City Homoeopathic Dispensary..... | 2,510 | 812 | 553 | 5,125 | 150 |
| Albany Hospital Dispensary, Albany..... | | | | | |
| Atlantic Avenue Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | 7,010 | | | 13,927 | 124 |
| Bond Street Homoeopathic Dispensary and Tompkins Square Branch, New York..... | 8,274 | | | 12,829 | 153 |
| Brooklyn Central Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | 8,340 | | 334 | 9,683 | 29 |
| Brooklyn City Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | 11,204 | 604 | 604 | 18,653 | 324 |
| Brooklyn Electric Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | 2,952 | | 106 | 4,973 | 20 |
| Brooklyn Homoeopathic Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | | | | | |
| Brooklyn Homoeopathic Hospital Infirmary..... | | | | | |
| Brooklyn Orthopedic Infirmary, Brooklyn..... | | | | 423 | |
| Brooklyn City Dispensary, Buffalo..... | | | | | |
| Buffalo Homoeopathic Dispensary, Buffalo..... | | | | | |
| Central Dispensary, New York..... | 23,463 | 3,070 | 13,885 | 65,216 | 1,359 |
| Demilt Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Dispensary of the Long Island College Hospital, Brooklyn..... | | | | | |
| Dispensary of the New York Medical College and Hospital for Women, New York..... | | | | | |
| Dispensary of the Troy Hospital, Troy..... | 11,504 | | | 15,345 | 1,785 |
| Eastern District Dispensary, Brooklyn, E. D..... | 22,434 | 2,544 | 6,350 | 32,955 | 2,984 |
| Eastern Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Eclectic Medical Dispensary, New York..... | 5,000 | 1,178 | | 6,719 | 75 |
| Free Medical and Surgical Dispensary Association, Buffalo..... | 2,579 | | 940 | 4,743 | 17 |
| Gates Avenue Homoeopathic Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | | | | | |
| German-American Dispensary, New York..... | 10,183 | | | 31,208 | 371 |
| German Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Harlem Dispensary, Harlem, New York..... | | | | | |
| Hoffman Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Homoeopathic Medical College Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Infirmary (Dispensary) of the New York College of Dentistry, New York..... | 8,161 | | | 12,726 | |
| Manhattan Dispensary, Manhattanville, New York..... | 219 | 39 | 85 | 378 | 28 |
| Metropolitan Homoeopathic Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Morriamla Homoeopathic Dispensary, Morriamla..... | | | | | |
| New York Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| New York Dispensary, for Diseases of the Skin, New York..... | 101 | | | | |
| New York Dispensary for Diseases of the Throat and Chest, New York..... | 2,286 | | | 6,858 | |
| New York Ear Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| New York Free Dispensary for Sick Children, New York..... | 4,868 | | | 7,853 | 330 |

| | | | | | |
|--|---------|--------|--------|---------|-------|
| New York Homoeopathic Dispensary, New York..... | 846 | | | 4,800 | 270 |
| New York Infirmary Dispensary, New York..... | 13,875 | 3,509 | | 25,194 | 232 |
| Northern Dispensary, New York..... | 15,139 | 8,912 | | 49,631 | 312 |
| Northeastern Dispensary, New York..... | | | 6,683 | | |
| Northwestern Homoeopathic Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Northwestern Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Orthopedic Dispensary, New York..... | 165 | | | 478 | 108 |
| St. Elizabeth Dispensary, Utica..... | 1,878 | 200 | 500 | 3,500 | 8 |
| St. Peter's Hospital Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | 3,787 | | | 4,955 | 72 |
| St. Peter's Hospital Dispensary, Brooklyn..... | 2,152 | 20 | 32 | 5,307 | 9 |
| West Side German Dispensary..... | 6,327 | 435 | 1,293 | 15,981 | 173 |
| Western Dispensary for Women and Children, New York..... | 3,825 | 710 | 821 | 6,737 | 122 |
| Western Homoeopathic Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Yorkville Dispensary, New York..... | | | | | |
| Total..... | 188,072 | 17,433 | 32,169 | 396,097 | 9,055 |

TABLE 30.

STATE OF NEW YORK—OFFICE OF STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES, }
ALBANY, September 20, 1875.

To keepers and other proper officers of poor-houses and alms-houses :

The following instructions are hereby furnished to keepers and other proper officers of poor-houses and alms-houses for the record of inmates, as provided by Act Chapter 140 of the Laws of 1875 :

I. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS.

The book for the record of inmates of poor-houses and alms-houses herewith provided, is not to be substituted for the general register now kept in these institutions, but is to be maintained in addition to such register. It is required of superintendents and overseers of the poor, to give such information as practicable regarding each person brought or sent by them to poor-houses or alms-houses, and such information is to be recorded by the keeper or other proper officer. No record of Statepaupers or of tramps need be kept in this book, as the registration of these classes is otherwise provided for. The book should be carefully preserved in the institution, and copies of the record made and forwarded to this office on the first day of each month, in the manner hereinafter directed.

II. THE RECORD.

The names of the paupers in the institution October 1, 1875, should be first entered in the book and numbered in the order in which they were admitted. The entries thereafter should be made at the time the person is received in the institution. The name of each person should also be alphabetically entered in the index with the record number. The blanks should be filled out in their order. Readmissions and discharges should be entered in the left-hand margin. In case of death, the cause to which it is attributed should be stated. The sample sheet herewith furnished, will assist keepers in their labors, and its careful study is earnestly requested. In order to secure uniformity in the record, throughout the State, special attention is called to the following questions, viz. :

1. *Birth-place.*—If the person or ancestors or other relatives were born in poor-houses or alms-houses, or in other public institutions, the fact should be stated.

2. *Education.*—The answers to this inquiry should be as follows, in accordance with the facts in each case.

Unable to read or write.

Can read only.

Can read and write.

Received a common-school education.

Received an academic education.

Received a collegiate education.

If the person be blind, a deaf-mute or a teachable idiot, educated in institutions for these classes, the fact should be stated.

3. *Existing cause of dependence.*—Under this heading the immediate cause of dependence, or in other words, *the condition of the person at the time of admission*, should be stated. The following are enumerated as the most probable causes of dependence, and it is desired that the classification here given, as far as practicable, be adhered to :

Homeless childhood, illegitimate.

Homeless childhood, abandoned.

Homeless childhood, by death of father.

Homeless childhood by death of mother.

Homeless childhood, by death of both parents.

Homeless childhood, by pauperism of parents.

- Homeless childhood, by imprisonment of parents.
 - Homeless, by abandonment of husband.
 - Homeless, by death of husband.
 - Old age and destitution.
 - Diseased (the name of the disease should be given).
 - Crippled (how and to what extent should be stated).
 - Deformed (the nature of the deformity should be noted).
 - Loss or impairment of any of the special senses, as blind, deaf and dumb, etc.
 - Insanity.
 - Idiocy.
 - Epilepsy.
 - Paralysis.
 - General feebleness of mind, as imbecility.
 - Impairment of the bodily powers, or mental faculties, from inebriation.
 - Vagrancy and idleness.
4. *Probable future of the person as respects recovery from the cause of dependence.* — The following should be noted under his question, as, in the opinion of the keeper, the condition of the person may seem to warrant:
- Permanently dependent.
 - Will probably recover from dependence.
 - May recover under certain conditions, which should be stated.
 - Future doubtful.

III. SPECIAL INQUIRIES.

There are many special matters in the keeping of the record upon which it is desirable to collect and record all the information possible. Among these may be stated the following:

1. *Entailment of disease, or bodily or mental misfortune from parentage.* — In case the person admitted is suffering from insanity, epilepsy, paralysis, special feebleness of mind or body, etc., the condition of the ancestors, and other relatives, should be carefully inquired into, and if it is learned that any of these, as grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts or other relatives were thus diseased, the facts should be stated in the column for remarks, with full particulars. The condition of the offspring of consanguineous marriages should also be noted.
2. *Relations of pauperism to crime* — Where there is reason to believe that the person admitted has been in jails, work-houses, penitentiaries or State prisons, the matter should be inquired into and the facts stated.
3. *Moral character.* — The moral character of the person, if an adult and of proper intellect, should also be inquired into. If there is mental or moral perversion, or morbid and debasing conditions of mind, the fact should be stated and the causes to which attributed.
4. *Pecuniary ability of ancestors and family relatives.* — The pecuniary ability of ancestors and family relatives should be learned as far as practicable, and noted. [Any other information of importance that may be obtained regarding individual cases, should also be recorded.]

IV. COPIES OF THE RECORD.

Copies of the record as provided for by the act, should be made on the blanks herewith forwarded. Great care should be exercised in making these copies. No copies will be required in case of readmissions. The copies should be forwarded to this office on the first day of each month in the addressed envelopes herewith furnished. In case the postage does not exceed thirty cents, the package may be sent by mail in the light envelope, otherwise, by express in the heavy envelope. Requisitions for books, blanks or other matter for use under the act, should be timely made to this office.

By direction of the Board.

CHAS. S. HOYT, *Secretary.*

PAUPER CHILDREN
IN
NEW YORK COUNTY

BY
WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,
COMMISSIONER EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

RELATING TO PAUPER CHILDREN IN NEW YORK COUNTY.

To the State Board of Charities:

GENTLEMEN—The report relating to pauper children in the various poor-houses and alms-houses of the State, submitted by me to this Board, January 12th, 1875, was based not only upon extended personal visitations to the poor-houses, but mainly upon the information gathered by the Board in its examination into the causes of pauperism, directed by the concurrent resolution of the Senate and Assembly of 1873.

As the examination was not then completed in New York, that county could not be included in the report. Since then, however, the inquiry has been finished, and the facts obtained have been placed at my disposal. This supplementary report is, therefore, now submitted, and with it the task assigned to me by the Board, in 1874, of reporting upon the condition of the children in the poor-houses and alms-houses of the State, is fully completed.

The establishments of New York for the care of pauper children, are located on Randall's Island, and practically constitute the children's department of the alms-house of that city. During the past year I have made several visitations to these establishments, accompanied on one occasion by Commissioner Roosevelt. These visits were made with a competent stenographer. The buildings and inmates were carefully inspected, and a minute inquiry made into the methods of administration. The report is based upon the information gathered during these visitations, and upon the facts elicited in the examination of this Board above referred to.

The children's department of the alms-house on Randall's Island comprises:

1. The Infant or Foundling Hospital, an imposing brick structure on the city side of the island, with spacious grounds about it, containing at date of October 1, 1875, two hundred and seventy-six infants.
2. The Idiot Asylum, a large brick building easterly from this, with an extensive pavilion ward, containing at date of October 1, 1875, one hundred and seventy-three children.
3. The Nursery Hospital, a group of three buildings a little beyond the last named, in the same direction.

4. The Nursery, a group of eight buildings, beyond the Nursery Hospital, and on the opposite side of the island.

Although divided in name and superintendency, the third and fourth groups, comprising eleven buildings, should be considered as one, and to these our attention will be mainly directed.

In order to understand so much of the New York almshouse system as relates to the care of children in the Nursery and Nursery Hospital, it will be necessary to state the relation of the buildings to each other, and their uses, also for the reader to keep these usually unimportant details in his mind. This relation is shown by the accompanying diagram which comprises the following :

- A. Warden's office, school-rooms and work-house women's lodging rooms.
- B. Reception house and department for small girls.
- C. Dining-room and dormitories for large boys.
- D. Large girls' department.
- E. Large boys' quarters.
- F. Small boys' department.
- G. Infants' department for quite small boys and girls.
- H. Main kitchen, laundry, tailor's shop for boys and sleeping apartments for paid nurses or domestics.
- I. South hospital building.
- J. North hospital building.
- K. Superintendent's office, etc.

Building "A" is constructed of gray stone, quarried upon the island. It is two stories high with attic and basement. It contains the warden's office, class-rooms of the school, and sleeping apartments for work-house women. In front of this building is a grass plat extending six hundred and seventy-three feet to the East river.

All the other buildings belonging to the Children's Nursery and Nursery Hospital groups, are built of brick, are three stories high, and shaded a light buff color. The size of each and distance apart given upon the diagram. Nearly all of these buildings, at least the larger ones, have piazzas extending their whole length on one side, and some of them on two sides. Two of the buildings in the Nursery Hospital group, have their porches inclosed with sash.

During a visit made October 13, 1875, the buildings of the Nursery and Nursery Hospital were inspected in the following order :

BUILDING "B"—RECEPTION HOUSE AND DEPARTMENT FOR SMALL GIRLS.

On entering the building we found the little girls just passing from the play-room into the dining-room. The table was set with crock

plates and mugs, with spoons, knives and forks. The meal for each child consisted of a plate of soup, with an ample supply of potatoes and meat, also a large slice of bread. A work-house woman dressed in blue jean, the common dress of this class here, was serving the food to the children.

The dresses of all the children were of blue gingham with white linen aprons. Cotton stockings and shoes were worn. The winter dress was stated to be a woolen or flannel underskirt, and a cotton chemise. In summer a cotton-flannel underskirt and a cotton chemise are worn. Only such cases as are directed by the attending physician, wear shoes and stockings in the summer. Sometimes these are furnished by parents. Children on leaving are dressed in the same clothing they wore when admitted. It was observed that the dresses were, many of them, ludicrously out of proportion; some too short, others much too long; some too large and loosely gathered, others looking as though the children had out-grown their clothes. This was unavoidable where so many were coming in and going out, and wearing clothes not made for them.

The matron in charge, in reply to our inquiries, said: "We keep the children here but a short time after their arrival. We dress and wash them, and after the doctor has examined them, they are transferred to their proper places. We keep here the smaller girls. We can accommodate eighty by putting two in a bed. To-day we have seventy-one; their ages ranging from four to eight years."

In the dormitories were double bedsteads of iron, three feet six inches wide. Straw beds and pillows were in use. The straw was said to be changed as often as the matron considered necessary. Each bed had two sheets and a double pair of blankets.

The floors of the room were clean, and connected with each was a bath-tub and a night-closet, the air of the apartment, however, did not seem sweet and wholesome. In this building six adult persons including matron, were employed. Two were work-house women, and one was from the alms-house.

BUILDING "C"—DINING-ROOM AND DORMITORIES FOR LARGE BOYS.

Here the dinner was being served for about two hundred and fifty boys. It consisted of meat, potatoes, pudding and gravy. Each boy had two pieces of bread. The bread is baked in the Blackwell's Island department of the alms-house. The meal seemed ample. The boys marched across the yard into the dining-room, in companies of about twenty-five. They beat time with the right foot, marched in close column with the lock step, and in the same manner as the convicts march across the yards at Auburn and Sing Sing. The drill-master said he had "forbidden the use of this step, but the boys seemed to

prefer it, and would use it when they could." This feature of the institution is doubtless owing to the association of the children with the convict class. Each company had a boy at its head who was termed a non-commissioned officer. He has a blue uniform. The best behaved boys, we were told, were selected as officers, and the effect was said to be good. The boys all stood at the table except ten or twelve who were crippled. The boys were mostly dressed in jackets and pants of gray cassimere. Forty of them have a blue uniform.

The dormitory above the dining-room was furnished with double bedsteads, iron, and heated by a cast-iron stove. Three of the women doing the work in the building, received wages, and two were from the work-house.

BUILDING "D" — LARGE GIRLS' DEPARTMENT.

There were in this building ninety-one girls, ranging in ages from eight to fourteen years. The matron in charge, in answer to our inquiries, said: "I have one paid assistant. I am usually allowed eight women from the alms-house and work-house, but I have only six to-day."

The dormitories here, as well as those afterward visited, were furnished similar to those last named. In the bathing-room was a large oval vat about ten feet long, by four feet wide. The person in charge complained that the supply of water was insufficient. She said: "We have not been able to wash in running water since last April." The children are not furnished with towels. It is customary to put clean linen aprons on them every morning at about nine o'clock. These supply the place of towels, etc., during the day, and are changed the following morning at the same hour.

BUILDING "E" — LARGE BOYS' QUARTERS, ETC.

This building contained a play-room, gymnasium, and drill-room, on the first floor. In one of the rooms was a large wooden vat for bathing. The boys wash in running water, and in summer time swim in the river daily. The upper part of this building is used for dormitories and store-room for boys' clothes.

The boys, on leaving the institution, are dressed in the same clothes they wore when they were admitted, if they have not outgrown them. The drill-master sleeps in this building. He designates three boys to act as monitors and report every case of disobedience of orders. Six females do the work, three of whom are work-house women.

BUILDING "F" — SMALL BOYS' DEPARTMENT.

One hundred and thirty-six boys occupied this building. All, excepting a few, were between the ages of five and eight years. On the

first floor are gymnasium, play-room, bathing-room and water-closets. The upper part of the building contains two dormitories. Six women were employed. One of these received wages, and the other five were paupers or criminals sent from Blackwell's Island. A woman, we were told, "always remains on watch during the night; she is one of the prisoner women." The assistant matron sleeps in the building.

BUILDING "G" — INFANTS' DEPARTMENT.

Here we found seventy-two children, mostly boys, ranging from two and a half to five years of age. Six females were employed. One of them received wages and five were "prisoners" sent up from Blackwell's Island. The assistant matron lives in this building.

BUILDING "H" — MAIN KITCHEN, ETC.

Here the paid nurses and work-house women take their meals. The dining-room contained tables and stools sufficient to seat fifty persons.

In this building the cooking is also done for the whole nursery department. The food is cooked by steam. Six large iron caldrons are used. The cook, on being questioned, said: "I have been here three years and a month; I have three children here; I came here to work for them; I cannot tell where my husband is; he got drunk and I left him; I have not seen him for six months."

In the laundry there were eight women from the work-house, and one who was receiving a small remuneration. They appeared to be about the average class of women that are committed to work-houses. In the upper part of this building is a tailor shop, where we found thirteen boys seated cross-legged on broad tables upon either side of the room. The official in reply to our questions, said: "We usually have about twenty-four boys here; some of them now are sick, and some of them are kept in school. When the school is out the force will be increased. The boys are taught to mend their own clothes." This shop was said to be under the charge of a man from the work-house, assisted by another committed by one of the magistrates. On the bench also was a simple-minded person who had been about fourteen years on the island. He was said to be a "tolerably good tailor."

BUILDING "I" — SOUTH HOSPITAL.

In this building were ninety-seven boys, ranging from four to fifteen years. They all slept singly on iron bedsteads of good width. Bath tubs and water-closets are attached to each ward. About half the pauper and work-house women belonging to the hospital department sent up from Blackwell's Island, sleep in this building.

BUILDING "J"—NORTH HOSPITAL.

Here were one hundred and eighteen inmates. This building used for girls and for small boys under five years old. Adjoining of the children's wards is a sleeping apartment for some of the work-house women. It contained nine beds, and owing to the crowded condition, two beds were put together for three to sleep on. One of the wards in this building was said to be used for contagious diseases.

ADMINISTRATIVE FORCE.

The eight nursery buildings, and the affairs connected with them, excepting the school department, are under the charge of a wardmaster. He is assisted by a drill-master, clerk, head matron, and three assistant matrons. There were also attached to the establishment thirty nurses and paid domestics, and a large force of male and female "helpers" who had been sent up from the alms-house and work-house departments of Blackwell's Island. Of these we shall speak hereafter. The paid domestics receive \$10 per month. Quite a number of them had formerly been inmates of the alms-house.

The three nursery hospital buildings, and the affairs connected with them, are under the charge of a superintendent. He is assisted by a head matron with a corps of paid assistants, and a large force of "helpers" likewise from the alms-house and work-house departments of Blackwell's Island. A physician resides at the Infant Hospital who devotes a share of his attention to the Nursery, Nursery Hospital and Infant Asylum, as well as to the Infant Hospital. He is aided by an assistant.

The examination of the inmates directed by this Board was finished in the early part of the season. The subsequent visitations were made in the month of October last. At the latter period the number of children in the Nursery and Nursery Hospital, did not differ materially from the number who were inmates at the time of the examinations made by the Board. At the date of October 13th, the wardmaster stated there had been no material change in their methods since the particular examination referred to, and that the system he directed was practically the same.

Owing to the incompleteness of the records kept at the Randall's Island Nurseries, the lack of knowledge on the part of officers regarding the personal histories of the children, in many cases, ignorance and lack of interest in the children themselves as to their family relations, and their extreme youth, it was found very difficult to obtain as full information as desirable.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION RELATING TO THE NURSERY AND
NURSERY HOSPITAL.

The result of the examination, made by the Board, may be stated as follows:

There were, in the Nursery and Nursery Hospital, 769 children; 545 were boys, and 224 were girls.

Ages of the Children.

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Between 2 and 3 years..... | 5 |
| “ 3 “ 4 “ | 37 |
| “ 4 “ 5 “ | 60 |
| “ 5 “ 6 “ | 94 |
| “ 6 “ 7 “ | 98 |
| “ 7 “ 8 “ | 87 |
| “ 8 “ 9 “ | 94 |
| “ 9 “ 10 “ | 68 |
| “ 10 “ 11 “ | 63 |
| “ 11 “ 12 “ | 52 |
| “ 12 “ 13 “ | 50 |
| “ 13 “ 14 “ | 24 |
| “ 14 “ 15 “ | 22 |
| “ 15 “ 16 “ | 15 |

Length of Time Inmates.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Had been inmates one week | 8 |
| “ “ two weeks | 3 |
| “ “ one month | 100 |
| “ “ two months | 54 |
| “ “ three “ | 64 |
| “ “ four “ | 34 |
| “ “ five “ | 24 |
| “ “ six “ | 62 |
| “ “ seven “ | 23 |
| “ “ eight “ | 23 |
| “ “ nine “ | 14 |
| “ “ ten “ | 6 |
| “ “ one year | 112 |
| “ “ two years | 94 |
| “ “ three “ | 47 |
| “ “ four “ | 40 |
| “ “ five “ | 30 |
| “ “ six “ | 12 |
| “ “ seven “ | 10 |

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Had been inmates eight years | 1 |
| “ “ nine “ | 2 |
| “ “ ten “ | 2 |
| “ “ eleven “ | 2 |
| “ “ twelve “ | 2 |

Making an aggregate, as near as could be ascertained from the sources of information at hand, of a little over one thousand one hundred and fifteen years of child-life spent in the alms-house. The average length of time each one of the children had been inmates, was a fraction more than one year and five months.

Nativity of the Parents.

The fathers of 128 and mothers of 136 were natives of the United States:

| | | |
|---------|---------|-------------------|
| “ “ 23 | “ “ 25 | “ “ England. |
| “ “ 2 | “ “ 3 | “ “ Scotland. |
| “ “ 220 | “ “ 246 | “ “ Ireland. |
| “ “ 61 | “ “ 49 | “ “ Germany. |
| “ “ 2 | “ “ 2 | “ “ France. |
| “ “ 1 | “ “ 1 | “ “ Italy. |
| “ “ 21 | “ “ 20 | “ “ Other coun's. |
| “ “ 311 | “ “ 287 | “ “ Unascertain'd |

Of the 769 children, 84 were born in foreign countries, that is to say, 22 in England, 40 in Ireland, 3 in Scotland, 12 in Germany, 5 in the Canadian provinces, and 1 each in France and Italy.

Occupation of the Fathers.

| | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| The fathers of 149 were | Laborers. |
| “ “ 4 | “ “ Sailors. |
| “ “ 219 | “ “ Mechanics. |
| “ “ 26 | “ “ Commercial pursuits. |
| “ “ 5 | “ “ Agricultural. |
| “ “ 1 | “ “ Professional. |
| “ “ 58 | “ “ Other occupations. |
| “ “ 307 | “ “ Unascertained. |

Habits of the Parents.

| | |
|--|------------------------------|
| The fathers of 196 and the mothers of 312, | were temperate |
| “ “ 178 | “ “ 102 “ intemperate |
| “ “ 395 | “ “ 355 “ habits unascert'd. |

Family Condition.

The condition of the families to which these children belonged, was as follows:

The fathers of 12 and the mothers of 30 were known to be in prison.

" mothers of 85 were in some of the institutions on Randall's Island.

" brothers of 247 " " "

" sisters of 151 " " "

Were orphans 53

Were half orphans by death of father 185

Were half orphans by death of mother 108

Had both parents living 393

Were unascertained 30

Had been abandoned by both parents 40

" " the father 122

" " the mother 34

Children Boarded.

The board of 201 of the children was to have been paid for either wholly or in part, as follows:

By both parents 19

By the father 80

By the mother 93

By other relatives or friends 9

The Superintendent of Out-Door Poor states that about half of those that agree to pay for the children's board, fail to do so.

Mental and Physical Condition.

701 of the children were regarded as being of average mental capacity—some of them "very bright"—48 below the average, 17 feeble minded, and 3 idiotic.

Of the 599 children in the nursery proper, 551 were considered healthy.

The physical condition of the remaining number, 48, appeared to be as follows: Four were suffering from temporary sickness, six from general feebleness of body, six from some form of skin disease, three from sore eyes, three from blindness, ten from loss of sight in one eye, and sixteen from being deformed or crippled.

Among the cases of disease and affliction in the hospital there appeared to be the following. Some of the children suffering from more than one disease at the same time:

Diseased scalp 29

Itch 19

Other diseases of the skin 25

Diseased eyes 57

Blindness 7

Loss of sight in one eye 3

It is sad to state, that the inquiry at the Hospital closed with the belief in the mind of the examiner, that five of the children who were placed in the Hospital in consequence of some temporary sickness, had, by coming in contact with other children suffering from sore eyes, been inoculated with virus producing disease of the eye and, it was thought, would become blind, and that in two cases out of the five the calamity was certain.

There were also, in the Nursery and Nursery Hospital, 18 inmates who were over 16 and under 20 years of age; 11 of these were males and 7 were females. Nine were orphans and 6 were half-orphans. All of these were fairly intelligent. The general health of 3 was good. Six were crippled, 2 were deformed, 3 paralytic; 1 was an epileptic and 3 were suffering from temporary sickness.

One of the number, a girl just passed her 16th year, was the eldest of a family of seven children. They had come upon Randall's Island with their mother, a woman 37 years of age, having recently arrived from England where the father still remained.

ADULT FEMALE HELPERS.

Seventy-four adult females were employed in the Nursery and Nursery Hospital; 50 in the former, and 24 in the latter.

Their ages were as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Between 20 and 30 years..... | 18 |
| Between 30 and 40 years..... | 39 |
| Between 40 and 50 years..... | 14 |
| Between 50 and 60 years..... | 2 |
| Seventy-four years old | 1 |

Their social condition may thus be stated:

| | |
|--------------|----|
| Single | 17 |
| Married..... | 24 |
| Widows..... | 33 |

Their nativity was as follows:

| | |
|---|----|
| Natives of the United States | 10 |
| “ “ Canada..... | 2 |
| “ “ England | 5 |
| “ “ Ireland..... | 54 |
| “ “ Scotland, Germany and France, one each..... | 3 |

One of those, given as natives of the United States, was a young negress, whose parents were natives of Africa. Another was a quadroon.

Twenty-nine were unable to read, 28 could read, 9 could read and write, and 8 had a fair education. One was known to be of thrifty habits, and 9 were said to be idle and shiftless.

The habits of 7 were temperate; 13 were moderate drinkers; 35 were periodical drinkers, and 19 were constant drinkers.

Twenty-three of these females belonged to the pauper class, and 51 to the work-house class that had been sent up from Blackwell's Island. Of the former, 1 was a pauper in consequence of a permanent disabling disease; 2 from destitution; 4 by abandonment of husband; 8 by death of husband; 7 were self-committed, and 1 was placed in the Nursery when a child.

Of the 51 that belonged to the criminal class, 13 had been committed as vagrants, 2 for disorderly conduct, and 36 for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. The number of times they had been committed was as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Committed once..... | 7 |
| “ twice..... | 18 |
| “ three times..... | 4 |
| “ four “..... | 10 |
| “ five “..... | 3 |
| “ six “..... | 5 |
| “ seven “..... | 1 |

and of 2, it could not be ascertained how many times they had been committed. One of them had been committed a number of times, and the other repeatedly during the last forty years. To use her own language, “times past counting part of the time for the last forty years.” She had been thirty years a dependent, either committed as a pauper or as a criminal.

Twenty-six of these females were employed in the Nursery department to wash and scrub, 3 to iron, 1 to cook; 12 worked in the kitchen, 2 in the dining room, and 10 in the dormitories; 3 were engaged in sewing, 10 in the immediate care of children, 2 were nurses, 4 were night-watchers, and 1 was unemployed.

Thirty had children; 42 of their children were on Randall's Island, 5 were in asylums, 34 were self-supporting, and 14 were supported by friends.

There were 40 adult males registered on the books of the Nursery and Nursery Hospital, 24 in former, and 16 in the latter. They were employed in the performance of various duties, under the direction of the warden or superintendent.

Twenty-two of these men were self-committed to the poor-house, 17 had been committed to the work-house for drunkenness, and one for assault and battery.

PLACING CHILDREN OUT.

The manner in which the children are disposed of at the Nursery is, according to the statement of the Warden, substantially as follows: Applications are made to the central office. If the applicant obtains an order for a child, he comes to the Nursery and makes his own selection. He has four months to try the child. If he is satisfied, the child is then indentured to him. There is a greater demand for girls than for boys. The boys are hard to dispose of. Upon subsequent inquiry at the central office, in regard to the method of placing out children, it was found to differ materially from the method generally adopted by asylums, though doubtless as perfect as could well be in an office overburdened with poor-house business, and with this business crowded into a few hours daily. Further, it was understood that there is no systematic plan for visiting the children, after they have been placed out, to ascertain if they are properly educated or humanely treated, nor does it appear that any attempt is made to maintain a correspondence with the children, or to place them under disinterested benevolent surveillance. As stated, any person taking a child is at liberty to return it at the end of four months, if not satisfied. It is believed that this privilege is not unfrequently availed of by parties who merely desire to obtain the services of a child during pressure of work.

The practice of taking children for merely selfish purposes, is verified in the large experience of the Right Rev. Bishop McQuaid, who says: "Many of the persons who take children from the orphan asylums, regard them as mere money-making machines, to be used while they pay, and to be cast off when they cease to pay." It is the opinion generally expressed by asylum managers, that the returning of a child, but a few times even, to an asylum, greatly injures it. Some go so far as to say that "it ruins the child."

One of the great evils in every poor-house system, and that of New York cannot be regarded as an exception, has been found to be the facility with which children may repeatedly be admitted to and discharged from the alms-house. After going in and coming out a few times a don't-care feeling takes hold of the child, and it loses whatever self-reliance of character it may have possessed.

THE SCHOOL

under the Department of Public Instruction, designated as Grammar School No. 6, contains a primary and grammar department. The former is very well attended, the latter has but few scholars.

But notwithstanding the laborious efforts of the teachers to interest and advance the pupils, it was painfully apparent that an air of listlessness, common to pauper institutions, was prevalent here.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

for both Roman Catholic and Protestant children are conducted; for the former by members of the society of St. Vincent de Paul, and for the latter by the ladies and gentlemen of the Protestant Episcopal Church. An occasional Mass is also celebrated.

INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

It will be seen, by reference to the ages of the children, that a very large number were old enough to be susceptible of industrial training, and yet, in this immense establishment, no general systematic plan for inculcating even the simplest forms of industry is adopted. As to industries, the official remarked: "We carry on nothing, except that a number of the boys repair clothes under the direction of a tailor, who works with them. In the girls' department they do their own repairing. We have about 30 boys in the tailor shop and possibly about 25 girls in their department."

In view of the fact that a large proportion of the inmates have probably fallen into this condition of dependence and pauper life, through lack of habits of persevering industry on the part of their parents, and that the object of this institution should be to train these children to be self-supporting and to fit them for useful stations in life, the absence of efficient industrial training is, evidently, a fundamental error in the system. If these children were in industrious families, or in appropriate asylums under the charge of benevolent persons especially devoted to the work, this essential element of their education would not be neglected.

THE BOARDING SYSTEM.

It will be seen that, at the time of the examination, about 200 of the children were nominally boarded by their parents, the latter agreeing to pay for all or at least a part of their board, although only one-half of the number kept their promise. The price fixed, however, is in no case sufficient to cover the entire cost of maintenance. Poor and worthy families, becoming impoverished and looking upon Randall's Island as a refuge for their children, regarding it as a fitting place for their little ones in view of the respectability thrown around it by official sanction had, unsuspectingly, placed their children under the unhappy influences which surround them here, learning only, too late, perhaps, that a deadly virus had infected the innocent nature of their offspring. It is believed that the Nursery is also made a convenience of by many shiftless families on the verge of pauperism. The facility with which they can place their children on the island by the payment of a small sum for their board, or by agreeing to pay it, favors rather than otherwise the pauperism against which they should struggle.

As an illustration of the dangers of the boarding system, and the evil associations growing out of it, we will allude to one of the almost numberless cases appealing for sympathy that came under our notice on the 13th of October.

In one of the wards of the North Hospital Building, our attention was arrested by a very attractive face. It was that of a young girl of 14 years. She was half-reclining on her bed, having just been waited on by one of the ward women. Her hair was very neatly dressed, and her transparent face was rendered beautiful by its intelligence and earnestness. Over her shoulders was drawn a blue-trimmed invalid's sacque, the gift, it appeared, of her mother. There was something in the lines about her lips and the introverted expression in her eyes, that seemed to tell of the soul within as being busy with its forlorn hopes. In the other beds of the ward were eight sick children, and, gathering about us, was a large group, afflicted with skin and other unsightly diseases. One of these children stood close against the bed of the invalid girl, and was suffering from red and bleeding abrasions in the joints of her arms and hands. She was excitedly endeavoring to allay the irritation of a troublesome, and in her case—seemingly—dangerous disease. The air seemed to be tainted with exhalations from the skin, producing an unwholesome odor, against which nature revolted. The girl first mentioned, said she had been five years in the nursery, and that her father paid \$5 a month towards her support; that she had been in the hospital nearly two months, and had had intermittent fever. She said, "I got up and caught cold. My mother put me here. Father went to look for work." The ward was under the charge of a female, a former inmate of the alms-house, said to be "a faithful nurse," assisted by two work-house women, sent up from Blackwell's Island. These appeared to be the only adult associates to whom, during her convalescence and moments of weariness, she could look for entertainment and companionship. Aside from the moral contamination to which this interesting child was subjected, she was liable, at any moment, to inoculation from some of the repulsive skin diseases around her, and, while in the hospital under treatment for intermittent fever, was exposed to infections, which might result in total blindness—an experience not unknown here.

CRIMINAL AND PAUPER ASSOCIATIONS.

From what has been stated it will be seen that, in the dense buildings of the Nursery and Nursery Hospitals, grouped quite closely together, there were at the time of the examination of this Board, 773 girls and boys under 16 years of age. Brought into more or less inti-

mate association with these tender natures, were 23 females that had, either through misfortune or some controlling weakness of character, sunk into the rank of the dependent class. There were also 51 females who had drifted downward, and had sunk into the rank of the criminal class, many of them, as has been shown, having been committed again and again for drunkenness and disorderly conduct, for street brawls and other offenses which had rendered them amenable to penal servitude. There were also, going and coming on various duties, 40 male adults belonging to the pauper and criminal classes, making in all 114 persons, who were either at the time actually paupers or criminals, or had been committed at some time as such, and of whom, it is safe to say, belonged to the pauper or criminal classes of society, brought more or less into contact with the children. Even with the strictest rules forbidding it, the association of the children with these persons must, from the nature of the case, be inevitable; but, so far as our observations went, the rules did not appear even to forbid it. The older girls were seen passing in and out of the laundry, and assisting in carrying linen to the dormitories, and work-house women were found dealing out food to the children, and otherwise engaged in serving them.

The county poor-houses, it has been demonstrated, were not the places for the rearing and training of children, and yet, it is believed, the influences to which the children were subjected in these places were not so debasing as those under the alms-house system of New York, for there they were brought into familiar association with the school teacher residing in the institution, and with the family of the keeper, thus counteracting, to some extent, the effect of the evil association with adult paupers. But under the poor-house system of New York county, vast numbers of children are literally herded together, and brought into association with the degraded and debased; not only with those belonging to the pauper class, but largely with the criminal condemned to penal servitude. Over this vast congregated body the personal influence of the very few officials superintending, can hardly be felt. A distressing feature about this association is, that its influence does not end with the brief time spent by the child in the Nursery, but continues to exert its baleful effect even after it has been put into a respectable family, or restored by its parents to its place in its former home. In many cases it is aggravated by personal contact with former associates, and this often occurring after a long interval of separation. But even where this does not happen the influence may be still insidiously operating to the defilement of the child. As bearing upon this point, it may be stated that, during the time of the examination made by the Board, it was ascertained that a lady from Connecticut had called to make complaint that a girl whom

she had taken from the Nursery, some time previous, was being contaminated by the letters she was then receiving from one of the women whose acquaintance the child had formed while an inmate of the Nursery.

In regard to the effects of these paupers and criminal associations, it may not be out of place to quote here the language of an English lady,* widely known by her life-long efforts to elevate the unfortunate in her own land. At the congress of the State Boards of Charities, held in Detroit in May last, a paper giving the conclusions on her observations made upon Randall's Island, during a previous and recent visit to this country, was read. She says:

"I visited the pauper establishment on Randall's Island. The site afforded every facility for developing an admirable institution, where agricultural labor and the salutary influences of nature might have been given to the inmates. But nothing of the kind was done, and seldom have I witnessed a more soul-sickening spectacle than the degraded women and incapable men having the charge of these children. The mere sight of them must have a demoralizing effect on the children; and though the intellectual instruction was fair, yet there was a painfully distressed and spiritless look among them. The system of employing the lowest women in the care of the young, is most injurious, and if done from motives of false economy, cannot be too greatly reprobated."

As bearing also upon this feature of association with criminals, the chairman† of the committee on children of the State Charities Aid Association, a frequent visitor to Randall's Island, says:

"Two among the many crying evils on Randall's Island are the employment of prison labor in the care of the children, and the want of thorough industrial training. The children are diseased through neglect, and degraded in character under such influence. They become useless, idle and pauperized. How can such children become self-supporting men and women?"

It may not be out of place to state here that the evils existing in the Randall's Island Nurseries have long been familiar to the ladies of the State Charities Aid Association, who have made complaint regarding them to the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections, as well as to this Board, and who have, for the last two years, displayed a generous zeal in their attempts to ameliorate the condition of the children, and direct public attention to this matter.

HOME LIFE.

The absence of any thing like home-life, or the best orphan asylum life, in the nursery is painful. The unfitting dresses of the little

* Miss Mary Carpenter, of Red House Lodge.

† Miss A. P. Cary.

ones, giving them a grotesque appearance; the habit of standing in great rooms to eat; the bare floors and walls without a picture or article of furniture to suggest home-life; the moving to and fro in great masses, destroying, as it does, all individuality, are among the conditions which should awaken sympathy for this tender class.

WAYS FOR DISPOSING OF THE CHILDREN.

The question may naturally be asked, what disposition can be made of the children of the Nursery. A review of the whole system adopted in the State for the care of dependent children, such as has recently been made by a member of this Board, leads to the conclusion that no difficulty need be apprehended on this score. There are in the city of New York well-managed asylums for the care of children, which are not filled to their capacity, and a considerable number in other parts of the State. These benevolent agencies are, it is believed, sufficient to provide for all the dependent children of the State without the aid of the Nursery, and would, doubtless, be glad to receive them, were they permitted to do so. There are also organizations directed toward ameliorating the condition of unfortunate and homeless children, and some who make it their special work to find good homes for such in the country about New York or the West, and who, it is believed, would take and properly dispose of all the children that might be assigned to them. The children, disposed of in either of these ways, would be far better off than in the Nursery; the county of New York would be a gainer by being relieved, in some cases, of a portion of, and in others, of the entire cost of, their support.

EXPENSE OF MAINTAINING THE NURSERY AND NURSERY HOSPITAL.

The warden, who has had 15 years, experience on the island, on being asked his opinion as to the employment of pauper women in the establishment, replied: "Most undoubtedly I would work to better advantage with the aid of hired help, but you can't get them for \$10 a month to come up here. During the month of August, it cost us five cents, five mills and four-tenths of a mill per day for each inmate. The month cost us \$5, 15 cents, nine mills and nine-tenths of a mill. Multiply that by 12 and it will give you the average yearly cost. Some months it costs more, but this is the average. The monthly cost of salaries is 77 cents, seven mills and six-tenths of a mill. The average of keep for last year was 16 cents a day including food, fuel, clothing and salaries."

This, it will be seen, is \$1.12 per week. But it must be borne in mind that it is the warden's estimate on the cost per capita of the children in the Nursery. The cost of support per week, per capita, in the Nursery Hospital, is stated by the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections to be \$1.41 weekly, not including vegeta-

bles. This estimate is independent of the school department. The cost of maintaining the school department of Randall's Island is stated to be as follows:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Salaries..... | \$15,000 |
| Repairs | 100 |
| Books and stationery | 650 |
| Fuel..... | 500 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$16,250 |
| | <hr/> |

No estimate upon the average cost of keeping the children can be considered a correct one, without embracing the sick with the well, in the average. Neither does the warden include in his present calculation, certain general expenses borne by the whole department of Public Charities and Corrections, a share of which should be charged to the Nursery. Neither does it include interest upon the large sum invested in the Nursery and Nursery Hospital.

If the warden was obliged to employ, at remunerative wages, in place of the large force of assistants under him, brought up from the work-house and alms-house, competent, responsible persons, selected with reference to their fitness as associates for the dependent class who need to be elevated both by precept and example if they are ever to be intrusted with the rights of citizenship, it would be found that the cost per capita per week, would be largely in excess of his estimate.

An important omission in the warden's estimate, and which may be fairly considered are the expenses attending the pauperizing effects of the nursery system, or in consequence of the diseases which it is likely to entail. As bearing upon this point, and showing how the poor-house system brings about pauperized conditions, the following is taken from the report of the State Charities Aid Association:

"In the hospital the ignorance and incapacity of the paid nurses are painfully evident; and in their absence the prison helpers are left in sole charge of the wards. The following extracts are from the note-books of the Randall's Island visitors:

"Found the nurses and prison helpers all away, and a crippled dwarf the sole attendant."

"The children in one ward had been without any care for several hours, until a Roman Catholic priest notified the matron of the fact."

"Nov. 26, 1875.—'Found wards four and five of the nursery hospital in a deplorable state. Some of the children were ill in bed, and two very ignorant prison women had the care of them. The nurse had gone about a week before, and after several days her place was filled by a woman who remained only one tight, leaving every thing in confusion.'"

* * * * *

"One of the most fruitful sources of infection is the imperfect laundry work. The hospital clothing is kept separate from that of other departments, but all infected garments are washed together, no matter what the disease may have been, and used in common for all hospital children. The pretense of washing

through which they go only facilitates the spread of contamination through all the garments. The supply of towels is usually insufficient. There is great carelessness in keeping the sponges and cloths used for ophthalmic patients apart from those used by the other children, and even if conveniences were supplied, the nurses and helpers are too ignorant and careless to use them properly. It can be readily understood that children brought in for the cure of trifling and temporary ailments contract loathsome maladies, entailing upon them life-long suffering, and unfitting them for the homes into which they might be received."

The following testimony in the same direction will be found in the yearly report of the Visiting Physician to the Nursery and Nursery Hospital, made December 31, 1869, to the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections:

"The repeated occurrence of these contagious diseases must be expected while such large liberty of communication with the city is allowed, and I earnestly recommend that special provision be made for the isolation and care of such cases. The present quarantine is not available for such purposes. It only serves as a house of temporary detention, to give time to examine the children and see that they are not the subjects of contagious disease. If it happens that they are suffering from such disease, they must be transferred at once to the general wards of the hospital, and as soon as this is done the danger of contamination of the other inmates commences.

"A former epidemic of scarlet fever in this Institution, I am informed, destroyed *sixty* lives, and it is a wise and humane precaution to guard against such disastrous occurrences."

Ophthalmia, it has been found, has existed in a virulent form in the poor-houses of the State, and is one of the sad features of poor-house child life. It was fearfully prevalent in the Kings county Nursery, at the time that institution was abolished. It will be seen by reference to the examination of the Board, that in the Nursery there were three cases of sore eyes, three children were blind, and ten were blind in one eye; and in the Nursery Hospital that fifty-seven children had sore eyes, seven were blind, and three blind in one eye, making in all eighty-three children that were either suffering from diseased eyes, or were blind in one or both eyes. The precise number of these children who were sufferers in consequence of the poor-house system, it could not be determined. But it was believed by the examiner, that five of these children had been inoculated with virus producing sore eyes while in the hospital, and after being sent there and while under treatment for other ailments. Three of these poor children it was thought would become blind, while of the other two it was regarded as a matter of certainty. The expense of maintaining a single blind person from childhood upwards, is a grave consideration in a pecuniary sense, and one which must be brought into these particular estimates to arrive at a just conclusion. In a humanitarian view, however, the relative expense of various systems are not to be considered.

We read of a boy prince pleading on his knees before his keeper, that his eyes might not be put out with red-hot irons; and that his cruel tormentor looking into those beautiful windows of the soul, lost

heart to perform his fearful commission. The bare mention even of such a horrid conception causes the cheek to burn with indignation; but it is believed, that here, in the 19th century, at one of the few central points of the wealth and civilization of a continent, we find an evil tolerated that permits the light of day to be shut out forever from the eyes of orphan children. This sounds strange, and yet it is no nursery tale, but an ugly fact.

It is deemed proper to say that any system which needlessly exposes a single child, whether it be an orphan, or the offspring of honest poverty, or even a child of misfortune, to the deprivation of its sight, should not only not be tolerated, but be so entirely displaced that the memory of so great an act of inhumanity might be utterly forgotten.

EVILS UNDERLYING THE SYSTEM.

We have seen this strangely-conglomerated system of poor-house, boarding-house, public school, work-house and penitentiary on a summer's day, when the pleasant voices of children came to our ears across the grounds, and as we beheld, looking down the broad walk under the ailantus trees, through which golden bars of light were flitting, the white sails gliding dreamily to and fro on the distant water; and as we felt the courteous attentions of the intelligent officials placing us at our ease, it was easy for one to imagine that here, indeed, was a favored spot of earth. But let us contemplate it, when the warm night has thrown its weird shadows over the scene, and when the agents of mischief that dare not work by day, creep into activity. The men from Blackwell's Island are marched away to a building some "four hundred yards distant" from the grounds, designated by the official as a "branch penitentiary;" it is supposed, to be locked up for the night. The work-house women have gone to their quarters over the school-rooms; the warden has retired to his family residence upon the island; the paid nurses, cooks and domestics find their quarters over the kitchen. The male idiots, including all the older portion, have been marched over from the Idiot Asylum, and are occupying a dormitory in one of the large boys' buildings which should be locked, but which the drill-master admitted he had never found secured. Over this large community, with a considerable extent of harbor shore, one night-watch holds guard. The abuses which may result during the night hours to the helpless and unprotected, may be easily imagined. On being questioned, the watchman said: "I walk around the hospital, and go through every building except the girls' department. The work-house women are not locked up at night. They go up at 7 o'clock in the evening. There is nothing to prevent their going out and getting around the grounds, unless I am around. When I came here first, I was disturbed by the boats coming to assist the women away."

It will be borne in mind that here is an island with miles of shore, abundance of ambush, subject to abuse within and without, and, as stated, one night watchman over the Nursery. In consequence of this lack of proper custodial attention to the defective, pauper and criminal classes, this freedom from restraint and general looseness characteristic of the institution, how far Randall's Island Nursery contributes to swell these classes throughout the country, and to supply those vast and overgrown receptacles for their care and custody in New York must be left to conjecture.

CONCLUSION.

After a patient and impartial examination of this subject, the conclusion seems to be inevitable, that the whole Randall's Island nursery system should be set aside agreeably to the statute, and that the children should be placed in asylums suited to their various needs under the charge of those devoted to the interests of the young, or into good families where they may be trained and educated to useful and respectable citizenship. The Kings county nursery system was bad enough, but this is infinitely worse. That was not abolished by force of legal enactment alone, but by the exercise of an enlightened public sentiment.

This institution, like poor-houses generally, will always be under the control of party organization which must necessarily influence its management in the selection of subordinates, and being under the control of public officials the voluntary efforts of benevolent people to minister to the needs of unfortunate children must, in consequence, be shut out from this field of labor and the children deprived of what experience has demonstrated as being the very best agencies for their elevation.

If an attempt should be made, with even partial success, to remove the objectionable features that exist in the pauper and criminal attendants, it would result in larger expenditure than would be incurred in providing for the children in orphan asylums and other institutions for their care. Besides, a large portion of the labor performed, for the pay, by the employees, under an improved alms-house system, would, in asylums, be cheerfully rendered, for the children, by benevolent people, free of cost to the public.

It is believed that whatever may be done to improve this system, it will still have the same general characteristics, and retain about it the indolent atmosphere peculiar to all institutions having the care of the pauper classes, and that all attempts in this direction will only serve to gild over or cover up a radical evil without effecting a cure. Wherever the experiment has been tried, elsewhere in the State, to improve the condition of the children of pauper institutions by building for them good school-houses, or by separating them from the adult

inmates in entirely distinct departments, the results were disappointing, and were found not only to work disastrously to the children, but to be against the interests of the poor.

The proper mental and moral improvement of so large a number of children as are inmates of the Nursery is not a question of immediate cost of keeping only, but it involves the future well-being of society. It is believed that the attempt to afford to these homeless children the best possible advantages, at whatever cost, will be found in the end to be true economy. Every child preserved from a life of pauperism and crime, adds so much to the productive forces of society, and, at the same time, lessens greatly the public burdens. It has been said by a citizen of Madison county, "that no law of the State is more fraught with wisdom than that based upon the idea, that it is better to train the youthful mind than to support the aged criminal, and that no experiment in political economy is of more practical value, than that which transforms a fruitful source of taxation into a source of revenue—a pauper into a tax-paying citizen."

There is a vein of wisdom in this simple passage, which is well worthy of thoughtful attention, particularly when the public mind seems to be directed towards dealing with existing evils by preventive means, and at a time when pauperism and crime are so alarmingly on the increase.

It is but just to say that, so far as our observation went, the impression was made that the officials and matrons connected with the institution were faithful in the discharge of their duties, and were endeavoring to do the best they could under the circumstances; but they were working under a system established at a time when it was customary to load the insane with chains, and to fasten them to the floors in darkened cells; when the blind and the deaf and dumb received less humane care than at present, and when the whole criminal and alms-house administration admitted practices that would not, at this day, be for a moment tolerated. This system for the care of homeless children has stood till the present, a time-honored abuse, embarrassing the action, and dissipating the energies, of the officials in immediate charge.

Since writing the foregoing, and before closing this report, it is gratifying to be able to state that the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections, have declined to receive children over three years of age, excepting idiots, epileptics, paralytics and those otherwise diseased; have notified such parents and guardians as have children in the Nursery, to remove them, and have taken other action looking to the closing up of that institution.

The Legislature and the charitably disposed who are stepping forward in this emergency to the relief of the helpless and the unfortunate,

are entitled to the thanks of a grateful people; and when the work has been fully accomplished, as it is believed it soon will be, the beneficent results growing out of this important change in the alms-house department of the great metropolis, will not only be felt in some degree throughout the entire State of New York, but also in adjoining States.

That jealous and almost affectionate care with which the State now enfolds its dependent children, and preserves them from the stigma of pauperism, enables its citizens virtually to say, with a just pride, that in no county within her borders does there exist a system, under legal sanction, that brands the orphan or homeless child, a "pauper."

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,

Commissioner Eighth Judicial District.

ALBANY, December 27, 1875.

REPORT
ON THE PRESENT
DISPENSARY SYSTEM
OF
NEW YORK.

BY
THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
COMMISSIONER FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

REPORT.

To the State Board of Charities :

At a meeting of the State Board of Charities, held at Albany, April 6, 1875, the following resolution was adopted :

“ *Resolved*, That a committee be appointed to examine and inquire into the Dispensary System for the treatment of the sick, and its value in connection with the administration of public and private charity.”

In considering this subject we may divide it into the following headings:

First — The Dispensary System — its importance and growth ;

Second — The cost of treating patients in Dispensaries as compared with Hospitals ;

Third — How Dispensaries *have* been supported, with suggestions of a source from which to receive aid in the future ;

Fourth — Abuse of the Dispensary System by unworthy applicants, and plans for remedying this abuse.

I.

THE DISPENSARY SYSTEM — ITS IMPORTANCE AND GROWTH.

By the term Dispensary, according to common acceptance, we mean a place where medical advice and medicines are given to the poor gratis, although this is not *strictly* implied. Dispensaries are maintained legitimately for the purpose of providing free treatment and dispensing medicines to the indigent sick, either at the institution or at their homes. The notable benefits of this system are, that it deals with disease among the very poor, commanding the best knowledge and skill, and using the most proper remedies.

Dispensaries may be called “preventive institutions” offering as they do free relief to the sick at the inception of disease ; an item which is very important in the successful issue of many diseases ; hence the poor need not delay on account of expense or poverty ; for at the

farthest in this city—New York—they have but a comparatively short distance to go to embrace the proffered benefits of an institution incorporated and maintained expressly for them.

From careful observation of the workings of the system, it is but proper to state that patients are better treated, and obtain more real benefit from it than from any other. Through the efficient aid rendered by their officials many useful citizens are saved from protracted sickness, and frequently death, while their dependents and families are kept from becoming applicants for private or public charity. Family ties are not weakened or broken by the absence of a member in hospital; only those who cannot be properly treated at their homes need go into a hospital. The value of such service in promoting public health and removing or preventing the necessity for protracted charity cannot be overestimated.

In the year 1790 the New York Dispensary was founded, and from this as a nucleus we have now in New York city, twenty-five institutions provided for the free home treatment of the needy.

In New York and Brooklyn a total of thirty-two Dispensaries. Twenty-one of these for the treatment of general diseases, and eleven devoted to the care of special diseases—Eye, Ear, Throat, Skin, Nervous Diseases, Orthopædia, Women and Children. The increase of this work has kept pace with the increase of population, but not strictly adhering to the rule of demand and supply—for nearly one-third of the whole number are devoted to the treatment of diseases of special organs exclusively, while the same diseases are treated in all. It would appear that in some instances, there are influences at work in founding Dispensaries other than the worthy desire to offer free medical attendance and medicines to the poor.

The increase of attendance of patients may be illustrated by reference to the history of the New York Dispensary which shows that in the year "1791, 310 patients were treated; in 1828, about 10,000; and in 1868, more than 36,000; during the past year ending December 31, 1874, the number treated was 42,581," more than four times the number treated last year in our largest city hospital. While the above number seems large a much younger institution, more centrally and favorably located, treated in 1874, 83,309 patients, add to this the numbered cared for at the thirty remaining Dispensaries in this metropolis, and some idea can be obtained of the vast amount of good that is rendered to suffering humanity under this system; of course, many of the applicants for dispensary aid are only reaping the penalty of their sins of commission; still, even for these, it is our duty in their time of need to offer a helping hand.

The medical and surgical staff are selected usually from a large number of applicants principally from the ranks of the younger mem-

bers of the profession, and those who are appointed are of a high grade as to attainments, personal character, and fitness for their respective duties. The members of the medical staff, excepting the house and visiting physicians, receive no pecuniary remuneration, and the salaries of the latter are usually very meagre.

Medicines and appliances are satisfactory as to variety, quantity and quality. Diseases of every variety are treated.

Free vaccination is offered to all who will avail themselves of its protecting influence; this has been a very important branch of the system in several Dispensaries.

Dentistry in its varied branches, under the direction of competent men, has also its value in connection with the administration of Dispensary charity.

The doors are closed to none of whatever nationality, creed or color; all receive alike the same care and attention. Those whose illness will not allow them to attend at the Dispensary, are attended in their homes by the visiting physician, and the medicines prescribed furnished at the Dispensary.

II.

THE COST OF TREATING PATIENTS IN DISPENSARIES AS COMPARED WITH HOSPITALS.

In making a statement of this kind, it is not so much to show by actual facts that the expense to the charitable or taxable public is less by treating the dependent poor in dispensaries than in Hospitals, as to attempt to make plain the strong claim Dispensaries have upon the public, that they may be placed upon a sound financial basis.

Not all patients can be treated at home; many have neither home nor means, and from the nature of their maladies, from their bad hygienic surroundings, for want of proper nursing and food, they are obliged by circumstances, if overtaken by sickness, to go into a Hospital. Each has its respective sphere of usefulness, but each is to a greater or less extent the complement of the other — closing the doors of our older Dispensaries would throw an unbearable strain upon the capacity and resources of the Hospitals and greatly increase human suffering.

The following table includes six Dispensaries as representative of the system. The out-door poor department at Bellevue Hospital, under the direction of the Department of Public Charities and Correction, stands lowest as to cost per capita, for the reason that their expenses at present are only for medicines, salary of apothecary, etc.; they occupy a building belonging to the department, and the large expense of rent, insurance, interest or payment on mortgage for Dis-

pensary property is not added, and these latter are items which make some of the Dispensaries appear at comparative disadvantage. Charity Hospital is selected for comparison because it is managed in the most economical manner and is a representative of our public hospitals.

This table shows the total number of patients treated for the year in the following Dispensaries, the number of prescriptions made by the apothecary, the total yearly cost, and the cost per patient for the year as compared with Charity Hospital:

| DISPENSARY. | Total No. of pa- tients for 1874. | Number of prescrip- tions. | Total cost. | Cost per capita. |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|-------------|---------------------|
| Bellevue Hospital Dispensary | 83,309 | 88,197 | \$3,693 67 | \$0.04 4 |
| New York " | 42,581 | 104,177 | 16,904 69 | .39 7 |
| Northern " | 16,574 | 25,143 | 6,405 90 | .38 6 |
| Eastern " | 22,676 | 31,712 | 5,218 69 | .23 0 |
| North Western " | 16,444 | 33,127 | 9,354 65 | .56 9 |
| North Eastern* " | 20,028 | 51,378 | 3,190 10 | .15 8 |
| Charity Hospital | 10,615 | ..... | 90,817 02 | 8.55 5 |

III.

HOW DISPENSARIES HAVE BEEN SUPPORTED, WITH SUGGESTIONS OF A SOURCE FROM WHICH TO RECEIVE AID IN THE FUTURE.

Dispensaries, from their earliest history in this city, have received the funds necessary to meet their wants in the following ways: "By payment of a certain specified sum into the treasury at one time, which is the 'Life Member System;' by subscribing a certain sum yearly—'Annual Subscriber System;' by 'legacies and donations.'" It would seem that several of the Dispensaries are getting into debt, for, by referring to their annual reports, we see deficits in the treasurer's reports or balances due him, amounting to considerable sums in some instances while appended are calls for aid from those who are willing to give to these really needy and worthy institutions. A slight charge when the patients are able to pay would go far toward preventing this state of things. This has been tried in the North Eastern Dispensary with great success, where each patient who is able pays ten cents for a card allowing treatment and medicines for one month, at the end of which time if the patient is still attending, a new card must be bought. This slight charge, during the time it has been enforced, is found to nearly cover the cost of medicines prescribed, while an improvement in the morale of the applicants is noticeable. There is another way in

which the poor can secure medicines and the services of a physician in times of sickness without having recourse to the Dispensaries, we mean by subscribing to sick clubs and benefit clubs. The Dispensary system, however, is a necessity in a large city, one as important to be fostered and its welfare looked after as any branch of the city government. To leave these institutions to look for their *only* support to the few well-to-do and widely-known charitably-minded people who are constantly called upon to open their purses in behalf of the manifold reliefs for suffering humanity, is, in our opinion, wrong in principle and short-sighted in policy, although they are peculiarly entitled to consideration from this class.

IV.

ABUSE OF THE DISPENSARY SYSTEM BY UNWORTHY APPLICANTS, AND PLANS FOR REMEDYING ABUSE.

To those who take but a cursory glance at our present Dispensary system, or look only at the vast amount of relief rendered through their workings, it might appear that they were, in the main, as near perfection as possible. But let us get such a view as is taken by the *medical staff* in their intimate dealings with those who apply for relief, and we will begin to question the worthiness of a certain percentage of those who present themselves as patients at the Dispensaries, or who leave their addresses requesting the attendance of the visiting physicians at their abode. We must not judge from appearances which may deceive us; the clothes worn, not the refined language used or the general bearing of the applicant, may be relics of better days, which might betoken better things than we expect of those who seek charity; but our judgment must be rendered from a *more thorough acquaintance* with the history of the person. It often happens that people receive medical attendance and medicines free at Dispensaries, who are living in their own houses, or who are owners of real estate; who on producing their cards before the medical men exhibit well-filled pocket-books; while others may be personally known as able to pay, however moderately, for what they are asking the charitable to give them. The present loose way of granting to all who apply unnecessarily impoverishes the resources of the Dispensaries; as a result of which the worthy and really needy suffer, and the formation of provident habits is discouraged and pauperism practically encouraged. This subject cannot be more fittingly concluded than by giving in full a letter written to me upon this topic by a well-known worker in this field of investigation, Dr. C. R. Agnew, which covers all of the remaining ground and embodies views which have been arrived at only after careful thought and long deliberation.

MY DEAR MR. ROOSEVELT:

"My experience regarding Dispensary service and economy have been gathered in the Eastern, Demilt, and North-western Dispensaries of our city, and in the out of door service of the Brooklyn, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, and Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital. It spreads over more than twenty years of professional work and has resulted in some very firm convictions. One of these convictions is that a *vast* amount of medical service is rendered gratuitously in our Dispensaries, and also in our Hospitals, but especially in the former, which greatly helps to weaken the moral fibre of the beneficiaries. Advice is given freely by medical men, and medicines distributed with a free hand to thousands who pay the grocer and baker regularly and have money at interest in savings banks, etc. This evil has bad influence in two ways: it wastes the gifts of the charitable and in a reflex manner damages those who are its immediate subjects. To guard against the malignant influence of misdirected charity, all our Dispensaries should have a door-keeper selected for his *firmness* and *gentleness*, whose sole duty should be during Dispensary hours to ask every applicant for relief the following questions among others (Questions to applicant):

"What is your name?

"Where do you live?

"What rent do you pay?

"How much is earned in your family weekly?

"How large is your family?

"Have you any money in the savings bank?

"Other questions will occur to the inquirer as he becomes expert. Upon the answers to the questions should turn the one as to whether the applicant should be admitted to the Dispensary, and also whether medicines should be furnished gratuitously. For many years I have frequently, in my Dispensary service, asked such questions, not sharply and in an unkind tone, but as gently as possible, with the result not only of excluding many unworthy applicants, but what is perhaps even better of getting a deeper insight into the poverty of the deserving and so becoming more intelligent as to the best methods of giving relief. I have been greatly impressed by the veracity of those inquired of, and led sometimes to the belief that liars grow less frequent as you go down in the social scale of dispensary patients. That Dispensaries can be made largely self-supporting has been proved at the Manhattan Eye and Ear Hospital. As an illustration the beneficiaries of that institution pay for more than thirty-seven per cent of the drugs which they use. If we could get a *convention of officers* engaged in the management of Dispensaries, I have no doubt not only that much

money might be saved in their work but that they, the Dispensaries, might be made most powerful engines for developing the honesty of the poor in our city, and thus purifying some of the fountains of our city life. There is great need in our city for the work of charity and for even more money than the organized charities now existing can get, but there is also great need for reform in many of the methods now employed. I do not wish to be thought to be an unfriendly critic of our Dispensaries; I am not such a critic! I only wish to help as far as I can in guarding the beautiful Dispensary system against abuse."

I would, very respectfully, acknowledge the aid received from the following gentlemen in collecting facts and preparing the above report; some by letter embodying their views, and others by verbal statements: C. R. Agnew, T. E. Mather, D. Colden Murray, Samuel Willets, G. H. Wetmore, Robert Campbell, Dr. W. Schoonover, the House Physicians of the various Dispensaries, and Dr. D. H. Kitchen, Chief of Staff, Charity Hospital.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT,

Commissioner First Judicial District.

Dated, NEW YORK, December 27, 1875.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF

IN

NEW YORK COUNTY.

BY

THE STATE CHARITIES AID ASSOCIATION.

REPORT.

To the State Board of Charities:

At a meeting of the State Board of Charities, held at New York June 10, 1875, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That the Commissioners for the counties of New York and Kings, be requested, in connection with the State Charities Aid Association, to investigate the effect of out-door relief as administered by the authorities of the cities of New York and Brooklyn, upon the increase of pauperism, and report such recommendations as their examination shall suggest."

In compliance with the above resolution, the State Charities Aid Association has the honor to submit the following suggestions, based upon investigations in New York city:

The materials at the disposal of the Association are so few, and the means of obtaining information as to the effect of official out-door relief in New York upon the increase of pauperism so restricted that it has been found necessary to enlarge the actual limits of the subject submitted for inquiry. The Commissioners of Charities and Corrections will, of course, furnish official information as to the increase of persons in receipt of out-door relief; it may, however, be well to state here that it has been ascertained that the same persons are in the habit of applying for and obtaining relief from the city, year after year, and that many have, in fact, come to regard the winter supplies and aid given by the Commissioners as a permanent means of support.

The Association recognizes the fact that considerable improvements were made in the administration of out-door relief last winter; in some cases the police have been detailed to accompany the visitors, and detect attempted imposture and false pretenses. It is believed, however, that if all the societies engaged in relieving the poor at their homes would adopt the rule now enforced by some two or three of them, and refuse positively all help to those who obtain city relief, the number of persons appearing in the register at the Commissioners' office would be materially diminished.

During the winter of 1873-4, much attention was devoted to the administration of the funds apportioned to this department for distribution, and a hundred cases where relief was obtained from several

sources were taken from the lists sent in to the Comptroller. Subsequent examination and personal visitation gave the following results:

Sixty-nine of these 100 cases require no comment, appearing to be of the usual class of applicants; 15 per cent proved to be thoroughly unworthy; 11 did not need relief; 5 represented persons who had apparently received relief but could not be found or identified at the address given.

But allowing for errors in copying and for defective information obtained by the visitors, there still remains a large percentage of cases relieved or reported as having been relieved at the public cost, which never could have obtained relief under an efficient system of control.

Some of these cases deserve more than a passing reference.

One man was relieved who received a pension of \$18 a month; who rented a room in which two other men and women lived, who received aid from four charitable societies, and sold the provisions thus obtained for drink. Reported as being drunk and fighting constantly.

A widow 46 years old, with two children in good health, was so drunk when visited that she could hardly speak. Another woman lying drunk on the floor at the time.

A man was reported well and strong, with two grown-up sons, all habitual drunkards.

A woman sold coals given to her, for liquor; her son, 18 years old, drunk and disorderly; arrested by landlord for theft and sent for three months to the Island.

A man with wife and three daughters, paid \$18 rent. Brussels carpet and piano in room; daughters at work.

Address given is a public school. No person of the name given was known as ever having lived there.

Address given, No. 117. Only 49 numbers in that street.

The *Association* is distinctly of opinion that this state of things must tend to increase pauperism in the city, while the effect produced on the honest poor, and hard-working wage earners, must be injurious and degrading. To see their able-bodied neighbors living in idleness and supported at the public expense, to know that fraud and vice are no barriers to the receipt of city help, must be prejudicial to any high moral standard. The able-bodied man who receives public relief without giving any compensation for it in labor, cannot fail to lose self-respect, and gradually to deteriorate in character. Such relief, besides interfering with the laws which regulate the labor market, serves as a stimulus to idleness rather than industry, and undermines the power of recovering independence, and habits of providence and thrift. The amount given is too often enough to pauperize, but not enough permanently to aid the recipient.

It seems to the *Association* that it is physically impossible for the official visitors, under the present system, to exercise adequate supervision over the cases coming within their several districts. Nor is it possible to obtain the full and specific information as to their circumstances, which would enable them to make a satisfactory application of the funds so liberally granted by the city. If some system could be devised by which the numerous volunteer visitors and experienced officials of existing societies, engaged in out-door relief among the poor, could be organized into local committees to confer with the official visitors in their districts, a step would be taken in the right direction. Besides acting as a check on the applicants for help, a ready means would thus be provided for investigating and dealing with each case in detail. The rough-and-ready practice of making a fortnightly payment in cash, or of giving an order for groceries or coals, would be discontinued in favor of a more intelligent plan which should tend to the physical and moral improvement of those who obtain relief. It would then be easy to ascertain that no personation was made on the orders, that the quality and quantity of the goods supplied was satisfactory, that the official visitors' books were properly posted, and that deserving cases were not overlooked. The distribution of relief in money would probably be stopped entirely, and assistance of a more permanent character permitted in suitable cases.

The *Association* has suggested this modification of the manner of administering out-door relief in the hope that it may tend to diminish some of the evils and dangers attending official action among the poor. They are bound, however, to add that in their opinion the wisest and safest course would be ultimately to abolish all official out-door relief, to improve and enlarge the accommodation in the institutions, and to throw the responsibility of providing for the wants of the worthy poor entirely on existing private charitable agencies. The larger the sums appropriated by the city for out-door relief, the greater the inducement to outsiders to crowd into the city and thus to increase the pauper element of our population, while our object should be to diminish the number of our non-productive residents, by forcing them to become useful and beneficial to the country in which they live.

The same reasons which cause the *Association* to disapprove of all out-door relief, apply with double force to the temporary expedient of relieving distress by means of soup-kitchens. The experiment, wherever tried, whether in this city, in Paris, or as was the case last year in Boston, has invariably been productive of evil. The police records of these cities show conclusively that soup-kitchens foster crime and pauperism while they oftentimes do not reach the deserving poor. In

fact deaths from starvation have occurred while the kitchens were in full operation, and on the other hand, criminals of the worst class have been known to come from distant towns attracted by the prospect of free living while engaged in their nefarious pursuits.

In concluding this report the *Association* would remark that probably two-thirds of the pauperism of the entire State is relieved in the city of New York, the large majority being of foreign birth. The funds at the disposal of the Commissioners of Emigration are so reduced that large number of immigrants otherwise chargeable to their department resort to other forms of relief, while after five years residence they lose all claim to support from that fund. This creates an additional class of applicants for relief, and that not always of the most worthy description. In the opinion of the *Association* moral pressure should be applied to prevent such persons from becoming permanent paupers; but until a revision of the mode of distributing out-door relief is made, little can be done in this direction.

The main causes of the increase of pauperism among us are, as we have stated, idleness, closely connected with indiscriminate and perfunctory relief, intemperance or vicious habits, which require separate reformatory treatment, and immigration. We have endeavored to show that all these causes may be mitigated in their effect by a change in the present mode of administering out-door relief.

Dated, NEW YORK, November 30, 1875.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER,

President State Charities Aid Association.

EDITH GRACE PUTNAM, *Secretary.*

RELATING TO THE BEARING OF

THE SANITARY CONDITION OF TOWNS,

AND THE

CROWDING OF POPULATION INTO FILTHY,
ILL-VENTILATED AND BADLY-DRAINED TENEMENT HOUSES,

UPON THE

INCREASE OF PAUPERISM.

BY

HENRY L. HOGUET,
COMMISSIONER NEW YORK COUNTY.

A. A. LOW,
COMMISSIONER KINGS COUNTY.

4

STATE OF NEW YORK:
OFFICE OF THE STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES, }
ALBANY, *December 29, 1875.* }

To the State Board of Charities:

At a meeting of the State Board of Charities, held at Albany, April 6, 1875, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of Commissioners Hoguet and Low, be appointed to take into consideration the bearing of the sanitary condition of towns and the crowding of population into filthy, ill-ventilated and badly-drained tenement houses, upon the increase of pauperism.

In the consideration of the subjects referred to in the foregoing resolution, the committee employed A. N. Bell, M. D., of New York, a gentleman of large experience in sanitary work, to aid in the matter. The report of Dr. Bell upon the subject is herewith submitted. The general scope of this report is based upon suggestions by the committee, with whom the author had frequent conferences in the course of its preparation.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

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| HENRY L. HOGUET, <i>Commissioner New York County.</i> | } COMMITTEE. |
| A. A. LOW, <i>Commissioner Kings County.</i> | |

REPORT.

*To Messrs. HENRY L. HOGUET and A. A. Low,
Commissioners State Board of Charities, New York:*

It is almost too patent for remark, that the filthiest parts of towns are inhabited by the most unhealthy and the poorest people; that unhealthy surroundings are scarcely less potent in blunting the sensibilities and lowering the standard of morals than in diminishing the strength of the physical system, and to such a degree that even new comers, as there are always likely to be some in unhealthy neighborhoods, lose both moral and physical stamina, have their sensibilities deadened by the vitiated elements around them, and not infrequently become debased to the level of the polluted sinks and gutters amidst which they live. When once accustomed to their slums, if from any cause they are forced to leave them, they strive to regain possession or seek others like them; being apparently incapacitated for sudden changes even for the better. And, finally, when affected with mortal maladies, some are so degraded as to be like the dumb beasts, guided by instinct only, they shrink away into their dens and die, obdurate and uncomplaining. It was in recognition of these plain truths, although at the time inculcated by comparatively few individuals, that the English government in 1839 authorized inquiry into the condition of the laboring classes in both town and country, comprehending their dwellings, comparative cost and comfort, wages and expenditure, idleness and vice, surroundings and health. Stated instructions were given in regard to dwellings, to inquire as to comparative health and conditions of the inmates, and whether the advantage of improved dwellings had been observed to have any salutary influence on the moral habits of the inmates; whether the increased comforts of his house and home had tended to withdraw the laborer from the beer-shop and from the habits of improvidence, to which it leads; whether residents in separate and improved tenements are superior in condition as compared with laborers who hold merely lodgings, or who reside with other families in the same house; whether the surrounding lands are drained or not; whether there is a proper water supply for the purposes

of cleanliness of the houses, persons and clothing; whether there are good means for ventilation with due regard to warmth; whether there are proper receptacles for filth in connection with the cottages; whether such residences are unduly crowded, and several families or persons occupy the space which would properly suffice only for a less number; whether there are any inferior lodging-houses, crowded by mendicants or vagrants; whether there is gross want of cleanliness in persons or habitations of certain classes of the poor; whether there is a habit of keeping pigs, etc., in dwelling-houses, or close to doors or windows.

These are but a few of the questions covering the points of inquiry at that time instituted, which elicited the information so ably formulated by Edwin Chadwick, in 1842, in his "Report on the Sanitary Condition of the Laboring Population of Great Britain."

Following this work, there was published, in 1843, a "Supplementary Report on the Practice of Interment in Towns;" and in 1844, the "First Report of the Health of Towns' Commission on the State of Large Towns and Populous Districts," virtually a continuation of the same inquiry as the volume of 1842. And from that time to the present, many volumes, official and other, one or more every year, have been published in England elaborating the great pioneer work of Mr. Chadwick, indubitably demonstraing that the crowding of populations into filthy, ill-ventilated and badly-drained tenement houses is a prolific source of disease and pauperism; aye, that more than half the diseases which afflict mankind, are due to the conditions involved in the subject of this inquiry. Everywhere the crowding of populations into filthy, ill-ventilated and badly-drained tenement houses involve the conditions promotive of a high mortality, pauperism, vice and crime. In illustration, the following extract is taken from a report of a New York State Senatorial Committee in 1859: "A building containing *ninety-six apartments*, and these were inhabited when visited by *one hundred and forty-six families, numbering in all five hundred and seventy-seven persons*. Computing this aggregate of tenantry by the area of space occupied, we find an average of six persons to a room of twelve by ten feet in dimensions. Out of 76 houses examined in one district, the average number of persons occupying them was 70 to a house, or eight to a room 12 by 14 feet square. In one block of a series of buildings visited, 200 families, averaging five persons to a family, were confined without ventilation, proper light, or convenience for obtaining water. In another building examined, 85 apartments contained 310 persons, and all the rooms were not rented. If such aggregations of human life and filth, vermin, disease and destitution may not be termed 'laboratories of poison,' there is no fitting term whereby to designate them.

"Hundreds of the miserable occupants of these establishments dwell in cellars over five feet below the street level. In many parts of the city, on sunken lands, and where the sewerage is incomplete, these underground rooms are sometimes submerged by the drainage of the rains. In some this annoyance is constant, and the bricks or wooden floors are constantly oozing with moldy damp. Constant rheumatic affections, hip complaints, and affections of the bowels, are prevalent among the occupants. Instances have been known of the confinement of females on beds raised by a few bricks from the waters which flooded the floor beneath. Is it surprising that thousands of children die at the earliest period in such wretched holes and burrowing places? The quantity of air consumed by the lungs of a human adult in a minute is a half a cubic foot. At least a dozen times this amount is required at the same time, to permeate the system, after performing which function it becomes corrupt and is emitted in the form of carbonic acid gas, a poison. How long will it require for five or six persons, in a room 12 feet square, to consume all the vitality of the air within it supposing that vital air had ever entered such a place? Not more than half an hour. And all the air breathed after that time by the five or six persons, while they remain in the room with the doors closed, and without ventilation, would be what they had previously exhaled; in other words, they would breath poisoned air over and over again. Apply this computation to a tenant house containing from 200 to 1,000 persons, with exhalations from sinks, decaying matter and diseased bodies all around; the whole hemmed in by high walls of a narrow court in a sultry summer day, and can we wonder if typhus or yellow-fevers, cholera or small-pox, should visit the laboratory in search of ammunition?"

About the time of the report from which this extract is taken, earnestly commenced in New York, the same kind of voluntary work, which, in England, 25 years before, led to the enactment of laws for the protection of human health. A Citizens' Association was formed, under the auspices of which a "Council of Hygiene" sought out and published the localizing causes of diseases throughout the city. "In view of the fearful indifference to some of the prevalent and yet most preventable evils that characterize the plans of construction and interior arrangements of tenant houses, particularly as regards the gross herding of families, the obstruction of ventilation and natural lighting, the crowding of areas, etc., the council has introduced various examples from accurate surveys that have been made under its own direction, and verified by the sanitary inspectors of the districts in which examples are found."* This report is so accessible that it is not deemed

*Sanitary Condition of New York. Report of Council of Hygiene; Citizens' Association. 1865, p. lxxx.

necessary to quote from it to any extent; it will suffice to state, that it is the most complete report on the unsanitary condition of New York that has ever been published, and that most of the preventable causes of disease in New York so graphically described in that volume ten years ago, still obtain, and most prominently of all the tenement-house system than which, surely, there is not a more disgraceful blur on the civilization of the nineteenth century.

True, there have been some improvements in recent structures since the exposures above referred to; some of them have increased facilities of water supply, and are better cleaned and lighted, and, withal, are more frequently *inspected* by the officers of the health department, but how to crowd the largest number of persons into the smallest space with the least pecuniary outlay, is still the pervading idea of the tenement-house landlord; health seems never to be a subject worthy of his consideration. *Want of space* is still a prevailing evil, and no matter how well arranged the structure may be, so long as over-crowding is practiced, consequences will continue, at which all the better feelings of human nature revolt, and which might, with propriety, be passed over in silence were it not the best way to correct abuses to make ourselves acquainted with the results.

It is still a common thing in New York tenement houses to find families of six or eight, or even more persons, all crowded into one room of dimensions too small for one-fourth of the number, and with but one bed; father, mother, grown-up sons and daughters, and young children, all huddled together. Order, delicacy, decency, chastity—all overwhelmed by squalor. Pure air is impossible in such places, and that which pervades instead is a sickening, devitalized narcotic—air surcharged with carbonic acid and organic exhalations. Drunk with impurity, the fell destroyer, disease, in its most loathsome aspects, here runs riot and moral uncleanness is its only competitor. Hand in hand they pursue their course; poverty, disease, vice and some of the most abhorrent crimes, are here borne and matured.

The motley population of the worst of these dens of death are criminals in ambush, apparently occupied with various industries, but for the most part these occupations are mere blinds; their chief means of support are prostitution and plunder.

Lest it should be thought that these conditions are things of the past, that the tenement houses of New York *used* to be as above described attention is invited to the following data from the last report of the board of health, for the year ending April 30, 1874. By the census of 1870, the population of New York was 942,292; of this number 111,205, or 11.8 per cent were of children under five years of age; of families, there were 185,989; dwellings 64,944, giving an average of 14.72 persons to each dwelling. The sanitary survey which was com-

pleted at the beginning of 1870, found 113,402 families residing in 14,494 houses, of which only 11,964 front upon streets; that is 1,440 were, and still are rear buildings. Within these 14,494 limited dwelling places there were enumerated 463,392, or about one-half of the total number of inhabitants, on an average of 31.26 to each house, and that *half of the population of the city was residing upon an area so crowded that less than seven square yards of ground area was allotted to each tenement house occupant.*

The death-rate in the city of New York has for several years ranged from 27 to 33 per 1,000 inhabitants. The mean ratio for 1867, 1868 and 1869 was 29. The total number of deaths for the year ending April 30, 1874, was 29,084; 29.84 per 1,000 on an estimated population of 1,000,000.

The whole number of tenement houses in New York in which deaths occurred in 1873 (in houses containing four or more families) was 8,856; the number of deaths in these was 14,109.

This record shows that 64.84 per cent of the total mortality in the city in 1873 occurred in this class of dwellings. The whole population being about equally divided, one-half residing in tenement houses (including public institutions, in as much as patients who die in public institutions are chiefly residents of the tenement houses) the mortality in this division for the last six years has been:

| | 1868 | 1869 | 1870 | 1871 | 1872 | 1873 |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Deaths in tenement houses and public institutions..... | 18,864 | 17,350 | 17,997 | 17,993 | 21,550 | 18,864 |
| Per centage to total mortality.. | 75.79 | 68.94 | 66.22 | 66.48 | 66.00 | 64.86 |

These results are in reality less than the actual, because numerous tenement houses in which deaths occur are not certified to as such. But, taking the figures as they stand they show that of the half of the population living in tenement houses in 1873, there were 18,864 deaths, a death rate equal to 37.72 per 1,000 of the living. Of the other half, not living in tenement houses, there were 10,220 deaths, a death rate of 20.44 per 1,000; showing that, for the last year of complete data, the excess of mortality attributable to the conditions of tenement-house occupancy was 8,640.

Of infant life in New York according to the census of 1870, 111,205 or 11.8 per cent of the total population was of children under five years of age.

The number of infants enumerated in the city at each successive census shows that the child population under five years of age is 118 per 1,000 of the inhabitants, only *one* per 1,000 less than that of the entire State, and considerably more than that of several other American cities and States. In Maine, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, the ratio is less than 108 per 1,000. In London it is 129. But of this large ratio of child population in the city of New York, about one-ninth of the total number of the inhabitants, 80 per cent of them are found in the tenements of the poor, and of these in some of the worse districts scarcely half survive to their second birth-day. In these places multitudes of infants are brought into the world by feeble and diseased parents, apparently for no other purpose but to speedily sicken and die; but still many puny ones survive, and the more children in such places the more orphans and paupers.

(The birth rate to population is 35 per 1,000, so far as ascertainable. "The registration of births in this city still continues to be unsatisfactory.") Of the total mortality of this city about one-half is of children under five years of age, and the death rate to the total number of children exceeds 100 per 1,000; 8,678 perish before they reach their first birthday, and of these infants under one year old (there being estimated about 26,700) the ratio of mortality is 325 per 1,000.

Accustomed as we are to look back upon the practices of the uncivilized aborigines of America, as we read of their cruelties to helpless infants and the aged, we are sometimes almost persuaded that familiarity with their barbarities has blunted our own sensibilities, that we have become purblind to the crimes of infanticide, at least, if not in the same way, in ways no less cruel or criminal, and to a degree far exceeding any of which history gives an account among highly civilized people.

The more closely unsanitary conditions are examined the more extensive do their ramifications appear; average short life is but a very small part of the evil. To whatever extent the duration of life is diminished, so much more productive power is lost, and every community is poor and powerless in the inverse ratio to the average duration of human life. Every death under the age of twelve years carries with it a positive loss to the community in which the individual has lived, because previous to twelve years of age sustenance involves cost—a direct outlay—and if the life of the individual is preserved a productive member of society is added and remuneration rendered. If the probabilities of life in any community are so low as to make the average adult age young, the proportion of widowhood and orphanage

is increased, and the productive members of society proportionately burdened. If a husband dies in the early years of his married life, he leaves as burdens on the community a widow or children, whom, in all probability, if he had lived, he would have supported. And thus it is that burdens are created and costs entailed upon the industrious survivors of every community in direct ratio with a high mortality. Besides, a high mortality always involves a large sickness rate, and sickness is always costly.

The average ratio of sickness to death in healthy communities, taking all ages, is about 28 to one. In other words, for every death that occurs in the community, there are, on an average 28 persons sick. Among the lower classes in city populations, where good health is an exception, the ratio of those actually laid up is considerably larger; the ratio of the sick to the well being often as high as one-third. "In two contiguous houses fronting on Pearl street, New York, it was found that among 74 families, numbering 349 persons, of the ordinary laboring class, there were, upon the day of the inspection 115 persons sick and diseased with various maladies; and, further, that the death rate of the preceding 12 months had reached the fearful maximum of one in 19 of the total population. But, it will be observed that while the death-rate was so alarming, the constant sickness rate was even more excessive; nearly one-third of the population of the two houses being sick on the day of inspection, which was during the healthiest period of the year."* Sanitary statistics generally show that a high mortality indicates a proportionately low vitality, a correspondingly large sickness rate. And in all communities where there is a large infant mortality reducing the average duration of life, the circumstance may be accepted as evidence of unsanitary conditions.

Of the number of children constantly sick, and the average duration and cost of the sickness which results in such a mortality as occurs in New York, it would be difficult to determine. But it may be safely assumed that the actual pecuniary cost of the sickness and death of 15,000 children under five years of age—half of the total mortality (exclusive of the cost of recoverable sickness among the remainder) could scarcely be less than \$100 each. And of the lives wasted by preventable sickness in children between the ages of five and 12 years, it would be safe to assume an average cost of at least four times as much, or \$400 each. The value of adult life at its best period is variously estimated by different statisticians at from \$1,000 to \$1,800 per head.

The pecuniary loss to the community and the State by preventable sickness and death, as applied to adults, depends somewhat upon the

* Sanitary Condition of New York, Citizens' Association, p. xlii, 1865.

nature of the disease, that is to say, certain diseases are most likely to occur within certain ages, and the most fatal of these are precisely those which are due to the causes comprehended in the scope of our inquiry, and most likely to occur at that very period of life which is the most valuable to the family, the community and the State.

From an analysis of a large number of cases, Dr. Southwood Smith, in his evidence before the English "Commission on Large Towns," states:

"It appears that during the year 1825 there were attacked with fever, under 20 years of age 109; between 20 and 40 years of age, 443; and between 40 and 60 years of age, 31. Further, it appears that in the five years from 10 to 15, the number attacked was 67; but in the five years from 15 to 20 they increased to 172; in the succeeding five years, from 25 to 30, they sunk to 81; in the succeeding five years, from 30 to 35, they still further diminished to 29; and in the five years from 35 to 40, they were only 28. In like manner, during the year 1826, the number attacked under 20 years of age, was 114; but between 20 and 40 years of age, the number was 498, while between 40 and 60 years of age, the number was only 53. The results during the years 1827 and 1828 were perfectly similar. Taking the four years together the total number attacked was 2,537; of these the number attacked under 20 years of age 429; between 20 and 30 years of age the number was 1,188; between 30 and 40 years of age the number was 531; and between 40 and 80 years of age, the number was 389; whence it follows that of the total number attacked, those between 20 and 30 years of age, nearly equal the number attacked at all other ages put together, the number between 20 and 30 being 1,188, and at all other ages only 1,349. In the circulars sent by the poor-law commissioners to the medical officers of the 20 metropolitan unions in the year 1839, I requested that a column might be made for the ages of those attacked with fever, with a view of testing the correctness of the data on which the preceding table was founded by a still larger observation, and the returns obtained afforded analogous results. Two consequences follow of the highest interest and importance. First, it is clear from these tables that the period of human existence during which fever can alone be said to be prevalent is from the age of 20 to 40, that is, the period of maturity, the most precious portion of the term of existence, that during which the individual is best fitted for all the duties and enjoyments of life, during which he is capable of most promoting the happiness of others, and of securing and appreciating his own. But of this period that portion which is incomparably the most subject to the ravages of this malady is the earliest portion. Now it must be borne in mind that the poorer classes usually marry and have families at earlier ages than the middle and higher, the great majority, at least of the women, being married at twenty. Of course

it is during the succeeding ten years that they have families, often very numerous ones to support; but we have just seen that this is precisely the ten years in which fever is so prevalent as to furnish, in this comparatively short space of time, nearly as many cases as all the other periods of life put together. It follows that not only the heads of families are more subject to the ravages of fever than any other class of persons, but that these persons are peculiarly liable to be attacked precisely at the period of life when they have the greatest number of young children entirely dependent on their daily labor for support.

"This is deserving of consideration viewing the subject merely with reference to the pressure on the poor-rates; but viewing it in its larger relation to the well-being of the humbler classes, it appears to me to deserve great attention."

On this and similar reports from a number of "Unions," Mr. Chadwick in his general sanitary report, remarks: "This premature widowhood and orphanage is the source of the most painful descriptions of pauperism, the most difficult to deal with; it is the source of a constant influx of the independent into the pauperized and permanently dependent classes. The widow, where there are children, generally remains a permanent charge; remarriages amongst those who have children are very rare. By the time the children are fit for labor and cease to require the parent's attention, the mothers frequently become unfit for earning their own livelihood, or habituated to dependence, and without care to emerge from it. Even when the children are, by good training and education, fitted for productive industry, when they marry, the early familiarity with the parochial relief makes them improvident, and they fall back upon the poor's-rates on the lying-in of their wives, on their sickness, and for aid on every emergency. In every district the poor's rolls form the pedigrees of generations of families thus pauperized."

Of the deaths registered in New York for the last year there were from fevers, consumption and other respiratory diseases, scrofulous diseases, rheumatism and intemperance, upwards of ten thousand; diseases to which adults from 20 to 35 years of age are the most liable, and overcrowding, filth, want of ventilation and defective drainage peculiarly predisposing. At any rate, for any excess in this enumeration of others than adults, it is fully compensated for by the number of deaths in prime adult age from dysentery and other diseases of the zymotic class no less due to the same causes, not included in the category of these 10,000 deaths, approximately due to tenement-house conditions. The cost to the city by the loss of these lives, and the sickness incident to them may be safely estimated at a million of dollars; and there was a sickness roll of at least 28 times as many as there were of deaths, costing many thousands more. The average of sickness ordinarily, as stated by M. Villermé, from

an analysis of the statistics of the Highland Society of Scotland, is that under twenty-one years of age the mean annual duration of diseases may be estimated at three days, and under seventy years of age at about sixteen weeks. * But Ansell, Neison and other authorities regard this estimate as being too low. †

The annual amount of sickness to each person expressed in weeks, as given by these authorities, is as follows :

| AGE. | Villermé, Highland So- ciety. | Ansell. | Nelson, Average of rural towns and city districts in Eng- land. |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|---------|---|
| Twenty..... | .575 | .776 | .840 |
| Thirty..... | .621 | .861 | .911 |
| Forty..... | .758 | 1.111 | 1.181 |
| Fifty..... | 1.361 | 1.701 | 1.960 |
| Sixty..... | 2.346 | 3.292 | 4.166 |
| Seventy..... | 10.701 | 11.793 | 14.039 |

More recently, the celebrated professor of hygiene in the university of Munich, Dr. Max von Pettenkofer, has given his attention to the subject, and remarks as follows :

“As the value of our lives depends on what we accomplish, and this is measured by our ability to work, the value of health to each individual must be apparent ; and here I may remark that each individual derives advantage, not alone from his own health, but he often, and to a much greater extent, profits from the health of others. What I mean is fully expressed in the simple Christian maxim, thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. But it may not be superfluous to remark that the religious precept is grounded in a fixed principle of our nature ; and that a city, a community, performs not only an act of humanity when it provides institutions for the healing of the sick, and means for preserving and improving the health of its citizens, but at the same time it creates a capital that in time yields a rich return.

Mere chance will not explain the fact that, in the history of human civilization, it has always been unmistakably those nations that have shown the greatest care for the health of their citizens that have exerted the most useful and the most powerful influence in the world.

* *Annales d'Hygiene.* 1830.

† *Manuel of Health for Ireland,* Grimshaw, Furlong and Moore. 1875.

It is an invariable characteristic of all cultivated nations that, with a full consciousness of their value, they struggle to introduce regulations to maintain and to improve the health of all their citizens, and that they do not, like the beast of the field, care only for themselves, or at most provide for a short time for the wants of their young. We can, without hesitation, take the interest manifested by a people in sanitary and hygienic regulations as an indication, everywhere, of the amount of influence they exert among civilized nations, and as an indication also of the number of healthy, active minds working among them.

What the Romans did to preserve the cleanliness of their dwelling places, and to supply them with pure and running water, excites, even at the present day, our unfeigned astonishment, when we examine even the ruins that are left wherever Rome held power.

Amongst us, many think themselves clean if they daily wash their hands and faces; in ancient Rome, even the poorest took a full bath daily. The Roman king, Tarquin the Elder, who ruled 616 years before the Christian era, not only surrounded the city with solid walls, as a defense against external foes, and erected numerous temples, but at the same time he constructed, as a protection against an internal enemy — against uncleanness — the first great sewer the Cloaca Maxima, through which the filth of Rome was to be swept into the Tiber. The ruins of this and of many other great hygienic structures are still to be met with in and about Rome.

Vitruvius tells us that the city of Salapa stood originally in an unhealthy location, so that the inhabitants suffered much from fevers. This induced them to abandon the city and to remove to another location, at a distance of four Roman miles, after Hostilius had thoroughly drained the place selected for the new city.

"I believe it will not be necessary for me to prove to you that in the peaceful struggle for existence, health has no less value, relatively, than in those fiercer contests in which soldiers fight for victory. To comprehend this fully we need some measure by which we may be enabled to estimate the relative value of health to a large community, to a city like Munich, and, if this comparison can be made in figures, it will be the more easily understood. I believe we can scarcely find any means of presenting this matter in a clearer light than by inquiring into the *time* during which our different avocations or business engagements are interrupted by sickness. Rascher, in his celebrated work on the principles of national economy, states that the value of time is most fully appreciated amongst cultivated nations, as it is by the most intelligent individuals. The maxim, "time is money," recalls to mind a renowned philosopher, and very practical mind, the celebrated Benjamin Franklin; and an English proverb tells us that time is the stuff that life is made of; and long ago old Pirkheimer

said that Celtes thought he found in the excellent quality of Nurnburg watches the reason why all the inhabitants of that city, even the richest, seemed so anxious to economize time. Rascher adds, that, in the markets of Central Asia nothing causes more surprise to Europeans than the little value set on time by the trades people of India and Bucharia, who seem perfectly happy if, after the most ruinous delay, they obtain a trifling advance on the price of their wares — a sure indication he thinks of their want of mercantile tact.

“The consequences following the loss of time are much the same in an economical point of view, whatever may be its cause; idleness may be from choice or from dire necessity. Sickness is, at best, a forced idleness, and this is probably the reason why lazy people so generally pretend to be sick. When a workman keeps his ‘blue Monday,’ and, instead of working or attending to his usual duties, sits all day in the tavern or ale-house; if he returns to work on the following day, he stretches and yawns and does little or nothing, and people do not wonder that he is soon reduced to poverty, and gradually sinks into the condition of a worthless vagabond, and finally becomes a burden on the community; but sickness forces many to keep ‘blue Monday,’ who, instead of going voluntarily to the beer saloon, are sent to the hospital. Then, when the patient returns from the hospital, he, too, may indulge in stretching and yawning, but not from the effects of beer, nor of a drunken spree, but from sickness and exhaustion. These poor men, in so far as regards their ability to earn the means of living, are as helpless as the drunkard and the vagabond; the difference is, that they are idle, not from their fault, but from their misfortune. At how high a value, then, shall we estimate the loss resulting from sickness? This question is complicated and difficult to solve. It is a very different thing if it be the father of a family, or a little child that spends a day sick; for it is not alone the loss of time, but the cost that sickness entails — the expense of medical attendance and of medicines, and the greater care that they require. Is it not an old experience that sickly children require a greater outlay of money, need more care, and cause more anxiety than those that are healthy; and, indeed, the expense they cause would often be sufficient to support a healthy adult? Yes, sickness in families not only costs more money, causes more loss of time, more care and attention, but it cripples the industry of the household through sorrow, grief and mental suffering.

“Taken all in all, we may estimate the loss for each sick person, from actual outlay, loss of time, and nursing, at the present rate of living, to average not less than one gulden* a day. That is certainly not too high a sum when we remember that even our public hospitals, which are founded on the principles of charity, and which receive barely enough to support them, expend from 42 to 48 kreutzers † a

* Forty cents.

† Kreutzer — two-thirds of a cent.

day as the smallest amount necessary for the maintenance of each patient; and this sum, in consequence of changes now going on, must soon be greatly increased. And even at this price it frequently happens that each individual is obliged to pay for extra services if he needs them. A good workman, who earns two florins* a day when in health, must expend 42 kreutzers a day while he is sick, and earns nothing; even allowing for his necessary expenses during health, it is evident that during sickness he loses more than the two florins, and after recovery he must, by increased industry, replace the amount thus lost if he wishes to regain his former financial condition. One gulden a day, then, for loss and expense, to each sick person, is the minimum that we can assume, in the opinion of those best informed in such matters.

"That sickness is a taxable object is fully recognized by laws punishing injury to our bodies, or damage caused to our health by others. The law fully recognizes the principle that the injured can derive no benefit therefrom; that he has suffered in body or in health, and that the person inflicting the injury, whether it be done intentionally or through neglect, is responsible at least for the full amount of loss the injured may sustain, and is compelled to pay a fine corresponding to this amount. Indeed, according to circumstances, the loss sustained may be very variable; but one gulden a day would not, by a court of justice, be considered an unreasonable indemnity. The same principle is found in the law defining the responsibility of directors and managers of railroads, mines, factories and the like, and compelling them to indemnify all that may be injured through their neglect.

"However, if a person becomes sick through his own fault, or is accidentally injured, he of course receives no compensation or indemnity; but his misfortune is no less than in the case in which another can be made responsible, and he is now obliged to bear the burden entirely himself. Suppose that every case of sickness occurring in the city of Munich in the course of the year to be caused by the city, and that fine and penalty were inflicted by the court, as in all such cases, it would scarcely be possible to find a court of justice large enough to accommodate the litigants, and if judgment were given against the city in every case, the taxes would be heavy and burdensome on those fortunate enough to enjoy good health.

"Amongst us, one would be laughed at if he should attempt to introduce a law to make the community responsible and answerable in damages for injury to the health of its members, and of strangers living amongst them; but in England, where they are far more advanced in sanitary affairs than we are, the public sentiment is entirely different. It has been asserted there, on high authority, that water

* The same as a gulden; 40 cents.

commissioners and owners of property should be held responsible for all injuries that might happen to individuals through their neglect of duty, and that the law should compel them to satisfy the claim for indemnity by fine, just as in accidents on railroads.

"The next question is, how many days, on an average, is each person in the community sick during the year? On this subject we have pretty accurate data on which to form an estimate. There are many fortunate enough to be entirely exempt from sickness during the year, while others may be sick many weeks, and even months. Statisticians have computed that every individual is sick from 19 to 20 days out of the 365 in the year; that is, he is sick about five per cent of his time. In round numbers, we have 20 days as the tax that sickness levies on mankind during the year.

"Could we lessen this burden on the community as we do taxes, assessments, and other public levies, we would remove a great deal of misery and suffering.

"There can be no doubt that one of the most important, and one of the most interesting problems of the present day, for medical science, and more most especially for all engaged in sanitary and hygienic studies, is the best means to reduce this tax that sickness is levying on us, and which we are likely to entail on posterity, unless we seek, by some means to make it less oppressive.

"If we assume the number of inhabitants in Munich to be 170,000, and allow 20 days' sickness for each person in the course of the year, there will be, in all, 3,400,000 sickness days in the whole city, and suppose one florin a day to be the amount expended by each person, then sickness will cause an annual loss to the city of 3,400,000 gulden. Such a sum, when first presented to us, excites our unfeigned astonishment, and we are inclined to believe that there must be an error in it somewhere. Let us examine it. This number is made up of three others; the expense of each day's sickness, the number of sickness days in the year, and the number of inhabitants in Munich; then, the error, if any must be in some one or more of these three factors. The last, the number of inhabitants in Munich, no one will dispute, the first number, the actual cost of sickness and other incidental expenses, seems to me, as it does to others, the minimum; but, suppose I am in error, and that this sum is 100 per cent too great, let us then take, instead of one gulden, only half of that amount, a sum which no one who takes the average for all conditions of society, from the highest to the lowest, can dispute, and we have an annual loss of 1,700,000 gulden.

"In regard to the second number, the yearly average of sickness days for each person, there is nothing to be changed. I believe the number is too small, rather than too large. There are certain classes of the people among whom the average number of sickness days in the course

of the year can be very accurately determined. In the Prussian army, from 1846 to 1863, a period of 18 years, each soldier on duty, was sick 16.38 days in the year. It will be remembered that only the healthiest members of the community are enrolled in the army, and these at the period of life when each enjoys the greatest immunity from sickness, and that among these, every one was sick more than 16 days in the year, the average of 20 days for a whole community, comprising men and women, children and the aged, is certainly not too great. We know from clinical experience, and from the reports of charity cases, that after 60 years of age, every workman is sick about 40 days in the year. I cannot avoid the conclusion, that in the city of Munich, millions of guldeus are spent annually for sickness, and that much of it is needlessly spent.

"We cannot censure any one if we find him astonished at the magnitude of the sum spent annually for sickness; but on closer reflection, he will, no doubt, admit the correctness of the number of inhabitants in Munich. It may be, too, that he will not consider the sum of one gulden an unreasonable amount to meet damage, outlay and loss consequent on each day's sickness, yet, he doubts the correctness of the 20 days given as the number of sickness days in the year, and generally accepted by statisticians; he fears that this number may be too great, or, perhaps drawn from exaggerated cases. I must admit that I have, myself, some difficulty in accepting the proposition. I have, therefore, taken the trouble to prove the truth of the calculation in another way, which is entirely independent of the former, and may be considered a proof of that result. For this purpose, in order to determine the number of cases of sickness, and also the number of sickness days in Munich, I have followed the course pursued by Dr. Webmer to determine the sickness and mortality in the city of Munich. His method, it is true, has led to a result that is less than the reality; however, this is a result over which we should all rejoice if it could be verified; having ascertained the number of sickness cases, and the duration of each case, we can determine the number of sickness days.

"We learn from the 'Medical Topography and Ethnography of Munich,' by Dr. Webmer, a book which deserves to be more extensively known in Munich than it is, how many persons have been treated for different diseases in all the hospitals and public institutions during a series of years, and how many of these died; in other words, we know the numerical relation between the cases of sickness, and the deaths in these institutions. Besides this method gives us the means to determine about how many days each person was sick, before he was removed from the institution, by recovery or death. From these researches we learn that on an average, extending over a long series of years of every

34 cases of sickness one died, and each patient was sick about 18.5 days.

"It now remains to apply the numerical ratio thus obtained between the deaths and the sickness cases, to the whole city. It is true that in the city we do not know how many were sick; but the other number — the deaths — we can determine as accurately for the whole city as for the hospitals and public institutions. We may take the whole number of deaths in the city, and ask how many sickness cases does that represent, assuming that there are 34 cases of sickness to each death, as was found in the hospitals? Indeed there must necessarily be more cases of sickness to each death in the whole city than in the hospitals and public institutions which are generally filled with working people and the aged, who often enter too late to be benefited by treatment but we will make no account of this, for, by underating them, we will be sure to get the minimum for the sickness cases.

"On an average during the last ten years, there died in Munich each year 33 out of every 1,000 people, and this, for 170,000 inhabitants, makes 5,610 deaths in the year. If we have, as in the public institutions and hospitals, 34 cases of sickness for every death, we find 180,740 cases of sickness in the year, which is about 500 cases a day, a number which is certainly not too high, for we do not doubt that there are often as many in the hospitals alone, within the city. Let us further assume that each case of sickness, occurring among the whole population of the city will continue 18.5 days, which is the average for the hospitals, and we obtain 3,343,000 sickness days for the whole city during the year, a number which corresponds to a remarkable degree with 3,400,000 the number previously found, and leads us to conclude that each person in the community is sick on an average, 20 days out of every 365 in the year."*

Conclusions from the data now given, applied to New York, may be summed up as follows: The population of New York is divided about equally into two classes, those who are for the most part crowded into tenement houses, and those who are not. The total mortality of the city for the year ending April 30, 1874, was 29,084. Of this number 64.84 per cent, with a death rate of 37.72 per 1,000 was among the tenement-house class; 35.16 per cent, with a death rate of 20.44 per 1,000 among the other half, those not subject to the tenement-house conditions; showing an excess of the total mortality, or 8,725 deaths as a result of overcrowding. Half of these deaths occurred among infants and children under twelve years of age, and, making due allowance for the cost of the sickness incident to them, did not probably cost less than, say \$500,000.

* The value of Health to a City. By Dr. Max Von Pettenkofer. Translated by T. P. Corbally, M. D. — *The Sanitarian*, vol. 3, p. 248.

The other half, adults, valued at the lowest estimate, involved a loss to the community and the State, of not less than \$2,362,000. To these sums may be added the cost of the excess in the sickness-roll, represented by the 8,684 deaths chargeable to the tenement houses.

The average police force of New York for ten years, 2,384, may be taken as an approximate standard of the best conditions of health. Of this number there were 261 deaths, an annual death-rate of 11.05 per 1,000. The average number constantly sick was 27.17 per 1,000, and the total number of days sickness to the whole force per year, 9,917. Measured by the same ratio the total population of New York for the year ending April 30, 1874, estimated at 1,000,000, with an annual death rate of 29.84 per 1,000 had a sickness roll of 73.37 per 1,000. The non-tenement house half of the population, with a death-rate of 20.44 per 1,000, had a sickness-roll of 50.25 per 1,000, and the tenement-house half, with a mortality of 37.72 per 1,000, had a sickness roll of 92.74 per 1,000. The excess of mortality 8,684, due to tenement houses, being 17.28 per 1,000, gives a sickness rate of 42.48 per 1,000 on 500,000 of the population—or 21,240 persons constantly sick. This number, multiplied by the days in the year, gives the number of days sickness due to tenement houses 7,752,600. At 40 cents per day the estimate for Munich, though the cost in New York is probably twice as great, amounts to \$3,101,040. To sum up:

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Children killed, cost..... | \$500,000 |
| Adults, killed, value lost..... | 2,362,000 |
| Sickness excess (due to tenement houses)..... | 3,101,040 |
| Expense of funerals, at least \$10 each..... | 86,840 |
| Approximate annual loss | <u>\$6,049,880</u> |

as the cost of premature deaths, lives lost, sickness and funeral expenses chargeable against tenement houses.

To fully appreciate the bearing of this cost on the increase of pauperism it must be borne in mind that it at first falls upon those who are the least able to meet it, the occupants of the tenement houses themselves. The poor mechanic or laborer, whose daily earnings are barely sufficient to pay the weekly stipend for his inadequate quarters, and provide daily food for his family, stricken with disease, has, of necessity, to become an inmate of a public institution; and his family for the time, at least, dependent upon charity.

It is by such means, however beneficent in their intention, that pauperism is invited and has its beginning. Temporary dependence upon public bounty, though necessary at the first, speedily becomes a sole reliance. It has already been shown that the deaths in public institu-

tions are so uniformly of the occupants of tenement houses that they are charged with them. With equal uniformity may the inmates of alms-houses and the recipients of charity generally be assigned to the same domiciles.

And of crime, the congener of filth? It is the nature of man to be influenced by the physical conditions which encompass him. Whether pursuing business or pleasure, whether in affluence or poverty, man's nature is reciprocal. He cannot, if he would, long resist the influence of his surroundings. The general effect of conditions, such as have herein been described, are manifest to the most superficial observers. Most persons in New York, at any rate, are painfully familiar with the impaired physical aspect of tenement-house residents. But painful as these conditions are, people do not usually reflect upon them in their more extended relations; they do not contemplate the danger of, and the frightful havoc which would be caused by cholera or other epidemics to which the tenement-house conditions ever hold the city liable. Above all, they neglect the still more appalling moral aspect of tenement houses. That of people dwelling in an atmosphere reeking with filth, with none of the decencies or conveniences of dwellings fit for human beings to occupy, separated from every thing that is calculated to elevate the thoughts, it is indeed, in no way surprising that the worst instincts imaginable gain the ascendancy and run riot, that they gloat themselves on intemperance, vice and crime.

Dependence on charity, begging and thievery, are but steps in the progress of depravity. And everywhere those who fall into these practices sooner or later lose self-respect, cease to have respect for others, and, at last, abandon themselves to the most wicked propensities.

Mr. Chadwick, in his first report, gives the following striking picture of these dangerous classes as they existed in Paris 40 years ago:

"The general practice in that metropolis is to cast all the rubbish of the house into the street on the over night, or before 7 o'clock in the morning, when men, attended with carts, sweep it up and remove it. In the night-time, however, the chiffonnier comes with a lantern and rakes among the refuse, and picks from it bones, rags or whatever may have been thrown away by accident, or the carelessness of the servants. The offensive filth of their persons and their occupations makes them outcasts from other classes of workmen; they sleep amidst their collections of refuse, and they are idle during the day; they are like all men who live under such circumstances, prone to indulge in ardent spirits; being degraded and savage, they are ready to throw away their wretched lives on every occasion. There are nearly 2,000 of the chiffonniers alone in Paris, and they and the water carriers were conspicuous actors in the revolution of 1830. During the administration of Casimer Perrier, the householders had complained of the

inconvenient mode of cleansing the streets, by large heavy carts drawn by three horses, which, during their slow progress throughout the day, obstruct the public thoroughfares, and occasion great inconveniences, especially in the narrow streets.

"In the beginning of the year 1834, when the cholera broke out, the attention of the authorities was directed to sanitary measures, and the municipality decided that the cleansing of the streets should be done by contract, by a quick relay of carts of a similar and more convenient shape, drawn by single horses; and in order to diminish the inconvenience of the presence of these improved vehicles, the contractor was allowed to collect one load for each of his carts on the over night, which would have led to a practice similar to that of London, where the dust carts take the refuse direct from the house without any deposit in the streets. But in this arrangement an important interest had been overlooked, the chiffonniers, who were said to have been aided by the owners and men belonging to the superseded vehicles, rose in revolt, attacked and drove away the conductors, broke to pieces the new carts, threw the fragments into the river, or made bonfires with them. Unfortunately, at that time, the cholera had broken out at Paris. The mobs of chiffonniers which collected on the following day were swollen by other crowds of ignorant, terrified and savage people, who were persuaded that the deaths from the strange plague were occasioned by poison. 'My agents,' says the then prefect of police, in an account of this revolt, 'could not be at all points at once to oppose the fury of those crowds of men with naked arms and haggard figures, and sinister looks, who are never seen on ordinary times, and who seemed on this day to have risen out of the earth. Wishing to judge myself of the foundation for the alarming reports that were brought to me, I went out alone and on foot. I had great difficulty in getting through these dense masses, scarcely covered with filthy rags; no description could convey their hideous aspect, or the sensation of terror which their hoarse and ferocious cries created. Although I am not easily moved, I at one time feared for the safety of Paris—of honest people and their property! In fact, the riot was one of the most dangerous that had been witnessed in that city, and it was not suppressed without great exertions and some loss of life. The anxieties which it occasioned to the Minister Casimir Perrier, and his disgust at the political use made of it, were considered to have contributed to his death. He was himself attacked with cholera, and died a few days after. Shortly before his death when expressing his disgust, he said to the prefect: 'My friend, we are harnessed to a vile carriage.' 'Truly so,' replied the prefect; 'and the ways are dreadfully dirty.' The material ways of the city continued as they were; the prefect seeing that the introduction of the new

carts became a motive to discontent and collision, took upon himself to set aside the contract with the contractor, who, he states, received no other compensation for his losses than a commission which he could not use, to collect the refuse during the day, and the chiffonniers continue to the present time (1842), in the exercise of their wretched vocation at the expense of the public health and cleanliness." "Conceiving it probable," Mr. Chadwick goes on to remark "that the amount of filth left by defective cleansing had its corresponding description of persons, I made inquiries of the Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police. From returns which they obtained from their superintendents it appears, that of the class of bone-pickers, mud-rakers, people living on the produce in mews, courts, yards and by-lanes insufficiently cleansed, 598 are known to the police. From an observation of the proportion of filthy children and adults who appear amidst refuse whenever there are new buildings and an unusual quantity of rubbish and from other circumstances, I believe that were the refuse of houses daily cast into the streets in London in the same manner as at Paris, London would soon have as large and as dangerous chiffonnier class. The degraded creatures are also found among the inmates of the work-houses, and the close identity of their habits with the chiffonniers of Paris, affords a strengthening proof of the similarity of population produced by similarity of circumstances."

The parallel of the circumstances which now obtains in New York with those above described, is too obvious for extended remark. The barrel-pickers and gutter-rakers of New York belong to the same class and are more numerous than the chiffonniers of Paris were in 1834. And the writer is assured by Superintendent of Police, George W. Walling, Esq., that all which is here said of them in Paris and London, and of the "filthy children and adults who appear amidst refuse whenever there are new buildings and an unusual quantity of rubbish, and from other circumstances," corresponds with his observation of the the same classes in New York. The most depraved characters and the vilest criminals usually have their bringing up and their hiding places in the foul dens of disease and death—the ill-ventilated, over-crowded and undrained tenement houses; and the more foul and vile the place the more prone the thieves and tramps to have their hiding places therein.

In the winter of 1873-4 there was an attempt made in New York to organize a general bureau of charities, which enlisted the sympathy and active co-operation of some of the best observers in the community. The effort unfortunately fell through. At the Social Science Convention in June, 1874, the Rev. Dr. Hall was called upon to explain the objects and result of the undertaking. "It was," he said, "to ferret out impostors, and to make charity reach only those who were

in real need, a sort of clearing-house of charity. The great majority of the charitable institutions responded to the plans of the bureau, but there were a few which refused to co operate. No one could have walked the streets during the last winter without being struck with what is very humiliating, the observation that this city is rapidly traveling in the track of the worst capitals of Europe, in the direction of abundant street paupers. Many of them are of the fancy kind, made up for effect purely spectacular, intended to operate upon the generous sympathies of the people at the moment. Others are quasi beggars among the street musicians. When I think of the many poor girls and boys who are being trained in that way in this city, educated in the worst direction, I must anticipate a crop of the most abandoned women within the next few years. I find that one society, admirable in its principles and organization, whose operations extend over the whole city, states in its printed report, that there were 20,000 persons, impostors in this city, living by the misdirected charity of the city.

"We have the Commissioners of Charities and Correction to look after paupers and criminals — a most unfortunate grouping — who expend \$1,250,000 per year.

"We have the Commissioners of Emigration to attend, with certain restrictions, to those who come to our shores, who expend over \$600,000 per year. There is more than \$1,750,000 per year. But take the 20,000 who are living by fraud and imposture. These people live very comfortably. It is very low to put their living at a dollar per day. That makes over \$7,000,000 a year going into the hands of the most degraded and corrupting class in the community.

"What is our reward? These clever, cunning, degraded people despise and laugh at us, and think that our very christianity is something that only gets hold of people who are a little soft in the brain. Men have very much to unlearn, and then much to learn, before they will get courage to persevere, and then, though they may not accomplish all they desire, they bequeath a trust to their fellow-creatures for them to carry out."*

The average census of paupers and criminals under the department of public charities and correction for 1874, was 10,289, and the cost, \$921,940.

It is inconsistent with the experiences of human progress that evils so much at war with the well-being of mankind should continue to exist among a civilized people. To merely lay them bare, were it the first time, the writer would fain believe should be an effectual step toward their abatement. But, alas, he is persuaded by previous efforts of the same kind, that the hearts of the tenement-house landlords of

* *Journal of Social Science*, No. VI, p. 85.

New York are "desperately wicked," and they will not let them go. Avarice has so hardened the consciences of these landlords, as to render them incapable of perceiving their responsibility for the 9,000 lives they annually destroy, the standing army of over 10,000 paupers and criminals they annually recruit, the more than 20,000 thieves, tramps and murderers they shelter, or the more than \$13,000,000 annual tax they impose on the public for their maintenance!

Such evils cannot continue to exist without poisoning the multitude; *their destruction* or retrogression of civilization is inevitable.

Selfishness and barbarism are noxious agents everywhere, and as such they should be treated. Cleanliness and refinement bear the same relation to each other in the progress of human culture, as do filth and moral uncleanness in the degradation of uncivilized communities. And the highest state of human culture furnishes the only standard by which the degree of elevation should be measured. To apply such measures for the preservation of life and morals, as will protect mankind at large from the injuries which narrow-minded and selfish individuals would inflict, is, therefore, the first and most sacred duty of good government. But no effort to this end can be applied to the continued tolerance of the tenement-house system of New York; they are wholly unadaptable to one another, the one bids defiance to the other. Good health, good morals, freedom from pauperism and vice, are unattainable in over-crowded, unventilated, badly-drained domiciles.

Public economy and humanity alike demand that the abominable system shall cease; that these prolific sources of filth, disease, pauperism, vice and crime *shall be destroyed*. To this end many areas of ground now covered by tenement houses should be cleared of the structures which occupy them, and converted into public squares covered with turf and trees; turned into breathing places for the dense population which will continue to surround them.

The pecuniary cost of such a conversion would be speedily met by the conservation of the amount now annually incurred in the maintenance of evils otherwise unavoidable. Laws should be passed against over-crowding, requiring and directing that all tenement houses so situated and conditioned in regard to structure and neighborhood, as to be obstacles to the promotion of public health, be removed, and the sites possessed by the city. Those not so situated should be placed under restraints in regard to capacity, fitting and accommodation. Such a law would not by any means be without precedent.

In the progress of sanitary reform in England, such laws have been applied to most of her large cities, and by them thousands of lives saved, immorality and vice lessened, public and private wealth increased.

Glasgow, for example, a few years ago, comprehended conditions

similar to those which now obtain in New York. In 1865, a portion of Glasgow, covering an area of about 88 acres in the center of the city, where a population of 51,304 was packed together at the average rate of 583 persons to the acre, in upwards of 10,000 houses, the walls of which were permeated with disease. The population of the whole city in 1865 was 423,723, so that fully 12 per cent occupied houses in every sense of the word unfit for human habitation, rapidly spreading moral and physical deterioration. The death-rate over the whole city was, as might be expected, 32.8 to the 1,000, which increased in 1869 to 34 to the 1,000, and the average death-rate of the 88 acres, specially alluded to was 38.64 to the 1,000. These figures still, however, fail to convey an adequate idea of the rapidly increasing over-density. In 1866, the town council obtained an "Act of Parliament (which was renewed in the year 1871), enabling the lord provost, magistrates and council of the city to take lands and houses compulsorily, to erect new buildings and dispose of the same; to erect and maintain houses specially adapted for the working classes, to borrow for these purposes a maximum of one and a quarter millions sterling; to charge interest for the sum borrowed on the town rates, levying an annual rate for the purpose of the act, not exceeding 6d in the pound."

The improvement scheme comprised 40 acres, in the worst of which, and in portions of the others, the population was housed at the rate of 1,000 to the acre, or 640,000 to the square mile. In these plague spots and fever dens the death rate was as high as 52.21 to the 1,000 in 1865. In 1870, before demolition commenced, it rose to 70 in the 1,000. Plans were prepared showing the properties to be taken, and parliamentary notices, in the usual form, were served on all the heritable proprietors, whose property was needed, none of whom opposed the bill. The value of the property scheduled was upwards of £1,500,000, and the preamble of the act narrates:

"Whereas, various portions of the city of Glasgow are so built, and the buildings thereon so densely inhabited as to be highly injurious to the moral and physical welfare of the inhabitants, and many of the thoroughfares are narrow, circuitous, and inconvenient, and it would be of public and local advantage if various houses and buildings were taken down, and those portions of the said city reconstructed, and new streets were constructed in and through various parts of the said city, and several of the existing streets altered and widened, and diverted, and that in connection with the reconstruction of these portions of the city provision was made for dwellings for the laboring classes who may be displaced in consequence thereof."

The operations, when completed, involved the purchase and demolition of upwards of 10,000 houses, which no structural alterations,

however extensive, could make healthful residences; the gradual removal and spreading of the population resident there, the laying off the ground in open spaces, and formation of 40 new streets to be cut through the center of the districts, removing unsanitary evils and affording commercial facilities, and the resale of the surplus lands for the erection of modern buildings, subject to the conditions, provisions and restrictions of the act.

The intricate net-work of houses then existing, now partially broken up, consisted of miles of alleys, or "closes," as they are termed in Scotland, not more than three or four feet wide, with lofty dark tenements on each side, forming a series of communicating fortresses, from which the criminal classes sallied with comparative impunity at night to ply their nefarious practices, having at hand facilities of escape and refuge. So much was this the case, that in 1867 the crimes reported to the police rose to the highest point ever attained, and were of a more serious character than at any previous time in the history of the city, and were rapidly increasing. The diminution of crime in subsequent years is largely due to the clearances made, which gave the police control and supervision over the criminal classes, as will be shown by the following table, keeping in view that the demolition of houses was trifling in 1868 and 1869, and that it was 1870 before this act was carried out to any extent.

The following extract from the official criminal returns, shows the number of crimes reported to the police as having been committed in the city of Glasgow during the years 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872 and 1873; also the number of persons apprehended and convicted for the same:

| YEAR. | Total crimes reported. | Total apprehensions. | Percentage. | Total convictions. | Percentage. |
|-----------|------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 1867..... | 10,899 | 5,042 | 46.2 | 2,975 | 27.2 |
| 1868..... | 10,594 | 4,726 | 44.6 | 2,996 | 28.2 |
| 1869..... | 9,394 | 5,228 | 55.6 | 3,122 | 33.4 |
| 1870..... | 8,702 | 5,077 | 58.3 | 3,000 | 34.1 |
| 1871..... | 7,521 | 5,046 | 67.0 | 2,872 | 38.2 |
| 1872..... | 7,946 | 5,287 | 66.5 | 3,128 | 39.3 |
| 1873..... | 7,869 | 5,791 | 73.7 | 3,526 | 44.8 |

Taking the highest and lowest for comparison, to bring out the result:

| YEAR. | Crimes reported. | Apprehensions. | Percentage. | Convictions. | Percentage. |
|-----------|------------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1867..... | 10,899 | 5,042 | 46.2 | 2,975 | 27.2 |
| 1873..... | 7,869 | 5,791 | 73.7 | 3,526 | 44.8 |
| | 3,030* | 749† | | 551‡ | |

The population in 1867 was 440,979, and in 1873, 498,462, so that the crimes reported in ordinary circumstances would have increased instead of diminished. The following extract from the official criminal returns shows the number of thefts reported to the police as having been committed within the city of Glasgow, by prostitutes or in brothels, during the years 1867, 1868, 1869, 1870, 1871, 1872 and 1873:

| | |
|-----------|-------|
| 1867..... | 1,192 |
| 1868..... | 1,246 |
| 1869..... | 1,146 |
| 1870..... | 807 |
| 1871..... | 458 |
| 1872..... | 227 |
| 1873..... | 264 |

Or, in other words, in this class of crime, instead of 1,192 cases in 1867, there were reported in 1873 only 264, showing a diminution of this class of offense of 928 cases in seven years.

Captain M'Call says, in his official criminal returns for the year ending December 31, 1871: "I would consider I fell short of my duty in this report were I not to acknowledge that the operations of the City Improvement Trustees, and the Directors of the City Union Railway have contributed to the results. Through these operations the city has been cleared of the foulest dens of crime and profligacy, and their occupants been scattered amongst a population breathing a purer moral atmosphere, thereby affording facilities to the police for bringing the vicious to justice more easily and certainly than when the whole formed a concentrated and combined colony of ruffianism.

Three thousand and eighty-five houses have been demolished, displacing an estimated population of 15,425 to provide for which and

* Less cases of crimes reported. † More apprehensions. ‡ More convictions.

the natural growth of the city, 26,794 houses have been erected within the municipal boundaries, under the provisions, conditions, and restrictions of the 'Glasgow Police Act,' under the authority of the Dean of Guild Court, from June 19, 1866, to August 31, 1874, which are estimated to accommodate 133,970. This does not include the numerous buildings in the immediate outskirts of the city."*

With regard to the cost of such improvements, if applied to New York, they would of course be gradually carried out, and would not therefore involve a large assessment at any one time; possibly no increase whatever, if judiciously managed. The process of evacuation might well be made to precede the process of demolition, contemporaneously with the erection of improved dwellings and improved facilities for access; or, which would be highly probable, promptly anticipated by private enterprise in view of the certain executions of such a law by installments, as it were, at stated times—requiring as in the example cited certain houses, or certain areas to be vacated on or before given dates.

The general principles of associations, societies and organizations under both government and voluntary efforts for the improvement of dwellings for the laboring classes which have been in progress in England for more than twenty years are so well known that an extended notice of them in this connection would be superfluous. It will suffice the purpose of this paper to notice the results.

From a paper in the journal of the Statistical Society of London, for March last, by Charles Gatliffe, Esq., F. S. S., on Improved Dwellings, etc., we learn that of 6,838 improved dwellings, capable of containing a population of 32,435 at a cost of about £1,209,359, in the vicinity of London, the death rate is considerably smaller than that of London or of the rural districts of England. For five years ending with 1871 the death rate in the Model Lodging Houses was 16.4 per 1,000; England, 21.4; London, 23.6 per 1,000. Children under ten years of age, the ratio in the model houses was 24 per 1,000 against 48 per 1,000 for London.

They have been equally efficacious for the suppression of crime, the vicious classes finding in them no shelter.

Any plan or law for the erection of such houses in the precincts of New York should be particularly stringent in regard to ground area, as well as house accommodation and other sanitary requirements, and executed under duly authorized and competent supervision.

The only approximation to the English system in this country is the one known as the co-operative association of Philadelphia, a concise

* Abstract of a paper entitled—Working Men's Dwellings—In what way can healthy workmen's dwellings be erected in lieu of those removed for carrying out sanitary or municipal improvements or for other purposes? By James Morrison, Chairman of the Committee of Management of the Glasgow Improvement Trust—*Transactions of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science*,—1874, Glasgow.

description of which as been recently published by Dr. Stephen Smith of New York.*

But it may be safely stated that no mere voluntary association can be relied upon for New York. The tenement-house interest is so large and the portion of the population living in tenement houses is so numerous and so hemmed in, that nothing short of a law of ejectment with provision for the destruction of the buildings, *compelling* the tenants to seek other quarters, and thus creating a demand for improved dwellings, will effect the purpose. With such a law comprehending municipal possession and limitations of occupancy, there would not probably be any need of municipal building aid. Private enterprise would anticipate the demand. And, as in Glasgow, London and Liverpool, improved dwellings' companies would be remunerative; thousands of lives would be saved annually, pauperism, vice and crime greatly lessened, and taxes proportionately reduced.

A law should be enacted: *To reduce, limit and govern the construction of dwelling-houses.* No dwelling-house, occupied by four or more families, should be permitted to stand, and no dwelling-house whatever should hereafter be erected, on the side of any street, which shall exceed in height the distance from the front of such building to the opposite side of such street, the measurement being taken from the level of the middle of such street immediately opposite said building.

Every building to be used as a dwelling-house, tenement house or school-house, should have in the rear or on the side or sides thereof, or partly in the rear and partly on the sides, at the least, one-fifth as much space, free from any erection thereon, as the ground space occupied by said building.

No habitable room in any dwelling house or tenement house should be allowed of less than eight feet in height in every part, from the floor to the ceiling, except rooms in the roof; and every habitable room in the roof of any such building, should be at least eight feet in height from the floor to the ceiling for not less than one-half the area of such room, and should average at the least eight feet from floor to ceiling throughout.

Every habitable room should have, at the least one window directly opening to the external air, and the total area of such window or windows, clear of frame and sash should be at the least one-tenth of the area of every such room, and the top of one such window at least, should not be less than seven feet six inches above the floor, and the upper half at the least, should be made to open the full width.

Every habitable room should be made to comprehend, at the least, 800 cubic feet of space for every individual occupant. Every dwelling-

* Methods of improving the houses of the laboring and tenement classes of New York *The Sanitarian*, vol 3, p. 148.

house and school building, and every room in any dwelling-house, tenement house and school building, or building used for a school, should be provided with open fire-place, or with special means of ventilation by air shaft or other means approved of by duly authorized sanitary authority.

Every dwelling-house, tenement house and school building should be drained in the most effectual manner; the situation, dimensions, material and construction of every water-closet, earth-closet, drain and cess-pool should be made subject to duly authorized sanitary survey and approval.

Lodging-houses should be subject to the same regulations and restrictions as tenement houses, in all respects, except space, but no room or space should be provided, let or occupied, which is less than 400 cubic feet capacity to every individual lodger, and no room of less than 800 cubic feet per occupant should be occupied for more than nine hours out of the twenty-four of any day.

No cellar or room, the floor of which is more than three feet below the level of the middle of the street immediately opposite, and no such room without a sub-cellar, should be occupied as a dwelling or sleep-room, and all such rooms occupied during the daytime for business purposes, should be required to conform to tenement house restrictions for window spaces and ventilation.

Every school-house, school-room or building used for school purposes should be required to conform to the same restrictions as dwelling-houses and tenement houses, excepting air space, but no school building, school-room or house, or room used for school purposes should be allowed, which does not provide, at the least, 400 cubic feet of air space for every teacher and pupil, and which is not provided with window opening to the external air, means of ventilation and drainage as herein before set forth in regard to dwelling-houses, tenement houses and habitable rooms, generally, subject to the approval of duly authorized sanitary authority.

A. N. BELL, M. D.

Dated NEW YORK, *December* 29, 1875.

HOSPITALS
FOR THE
SICK AND INSANE,

BY

M. B. ANDERSON,

COMMISSIONER SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

J. C. DEVEREUX,

COMMISSIONER FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

REPORT.

To the State Board of Charities :

The committee to which was referred the consideration of hospitals for the sick and insane have found that the subject is so much dependent for its elucidation upon the observations and study of experts that they have thought it best to seek aid from the experience of professional men, and to confine themselves to such general aspects of that experience as lie open to common thought and study. The construction of hospitals and the policy which should govern the state in its appropriations to that purpose are complicated with the whole subject of the remedial agencies most likely to benefit the suffering persons thrown upon the state for care. The question of hospital building is, and ought to be, subordinated to the alleviation and care of disease. No policy of construction can be a sound one which loses sight of the great purpose for which all hospitals are designed. Looking at the subject from this point of view, it has been urged upon legislative bodies that economy in expenditure which lost sight of this great end was not only unwise, but inhuman. In consequence, the state has acted on the policy that the buildings which for the benevolent end in view, are the best, are, on the whole, however expensive they may be, the cheapest. For this reason buildings of great solidity and with elaborate fixtures have been erected, at a heavy expense, in various parts of the state. How far these motives have been enforced by the agency and influence of commissioners desirous of elegant structures for the gratification of local pride, it is not our purpose to inquire. As the motive for these expensive structures has, in general, been a praiseworthy one, however unintelligently it may in some cases have been exercised, so all sound reform in the direction of economy should be controlled by the same impulse and directed to the same ends.

Within the last twenty years a change of opinion has been wrought among physicians and surgeons regarding the adaptation of solid structures, intended to last for ages, to hospital purposes. Hospitals for fevers and surgical operations, after long use, have been proved dan-

gerous to their occupants, and the opinion has become almost universal among physicians that hospitals of this class should be of cheap and comparatively slight construction, so that after a few years use and becoming imbued with the emanations from diseased persons, and consequently injurious to patients, they may, without serious loss of property, be destroyed and replaced by new structures.

It is affirmed that no cleansing process, however thorough, will remove the dangerous deposit in the walls of a hospital long used for fever patients, or surgical cases. It has been found by army surgeons that field hospitals are more favorable to the patient, than those hospitals of solid structure that have been long occupied. Hence, the tendency of opinion among medical men is to favor the erection of buildings which will secure as far as possible, 1st. The advantages of ventilation which field hospitals afford, and 2d. Buildings so inexpensive that when they become dangerous by the accumulation of morbid matter, they can be destroyed and replaced by new structures of a similar class. There is an incidental advantage in these slight structures, in the frequent reconstructions which they render practicable and in the opportunity thus afforded to introduce all improvements which experience and study may develop. The question arises, how far do the facts which lead scientific physicians to adopt a slighter and cheaper construction for hospitals designed for the ordinary forms of disease, affect those erected for the insane? It will be seen, at once, that this depends upon the relation of the hospital building, to the methods of treatment in cases of insanity which experience and scientific inquiry have proved to be most successful. The end of an insane asylum is to aid in curing acute cases, and to make safe and comfortable those in whom the disease has become chronic. The character of buildings used, should, within certain limits, be subordinated to these practical ends. Heavy expense is justified when it can be shown to be conducive to the relief of the greatest amount of misery, and the restoring of the greatest number of persons to usefulness and productive labor. No outlay which does not directly or indirectly conduce to these ends, can be justified. The cost, per head, for dwelling-places for the insane, is much larger than for the average of healthy persons. The increase of insanity, whether it be in a ratio greater or less than that of the healthy population, is so rapid, and the numbers thrown upon the state for support, impose on the legislator the duty of examining with care the problems involved in provision for the insane, lest the cost become so great that the public will, in the end, seek relief from the burthen by leaving the yearly increase inadequately cared for. It will be seen, then, that the question of housing the insane is closely complicated with that of the best mode of treating the disease.

It would seem natural to refer this subject at once to the judgment of those medical men who have made insanity a specialty. This has been the method pursued in our state. Extreme deference has been given to their opinions and very large sums have been appropriated to the erection of hospitals supposed to represent the highest demands of science for the care of the insane. The state has been exceptionally generous to this unfortunate class and has extended an almost unquestioning confidence to the able and benevolent gentlemen who have devoted themselves to their care. But the cost of housing patients has reached such a sum that the attention of the tax payers has been arrested by it and legislators are responding in such a way that we are in danger of a reaction so serious as to put in peril the well-being of this rapidly growing portion of our dependent population. In connection with this reaction and in some points re-enforcing it, there has arisen a doubt in the minds of some able and scientific "alienists" whether the money expended in buildings has been wisely used and whether the cost of supporting the insane poor especially, may not be reduced in a way that will benefit the class by increasing their chances of recovery and add to their comfort if found incurable. This change in the theory of the treatment of the insane rests, so far as we understand it, on certain principles which are worthy of very careful attention. They are not advocated on the grounds of economy at all, but as on the whole best in their general promise of good in their actual results.

These principles are not new nor are they drawn from theoretical considerations. They have been adopted in a greater or less degree by all superintendents and their general soundness has been almost universally admitted. What is new consists in the more wide and thorough application of them in the whole system of provision for the care and comfort of the insane. These applications affect the following particulars: (1.) Giving to the insane greater freedom from restraint, thus relieving them from the unpleasant consciousness of being prisoners in the power of others. (2.) By providing for the patients various kinds of useful labor adapted to their tastes, strength and capacity, in order to relieve their morbid states of mind, by drawing their attention away from themselves and fixing it upon the labor in which they engage and at the same time giving tone and vigor to the body and control over their actions and mental processes and thus aiding to restore the nerves and brain to their normal condition. (3.) To enable the patients to pass the day in the open air or in shops well ventilated, freeing them from the oppressive monotony of confinement within the walls of the building, with only partial opportunities for exercise. (4.) The possibility of incidentally ren-

dering the buildings for the shelter of the patients less costly and reducing by the earnings of labor the outlay for current expenses.

It is well known that the principles here alluded to, have been applied in Great Britain and Ireland somewhat more extensively than in the United States, and differences of opinion exist regarding the results reached. In America it is possible that there has been undue anxiety to escape all those risks which are connected with giving insane patients liberty of action and implements for labor. This care to prevent patients from injuring themselves may have led to too great uniformity of treatment, and to applying restraints and seclusion to patients who could be trusted to perform farm or mechanical labor with entire safety and with great benefit to themselves. The following note from the *Boston Medical and Surgical Journal* of February 24, signed C. F. F., thus tersely puts the point of difference between English and American modes of treatment: "We try to be *too safe*. We sacrifice cures and the comfort of our patients to our fear of accidents. It is so easy to trust to a camisole or bed-straps, or bars or bolts, that we do not take time to make accurate and careful diagnoses, and to discriminate as fully as we ought between patients who can be trusted and those who cannot." The extent to which labor and freedom from restraint are practicable, cannot be ascertained by any theoretical considerations. The practical experience of skillful and observant physicians is the only guide to sound results. Governor Tilden requested Dr. Wilbur, of Syracuse, who was about to make a journey to Europe for the study of the treatment of idiocy and insanity, to make a careful record of his observations on these points that it might be given to the public in connection with our report. Dr. Wilbur's report is herewith submitted. It will be found especially valuable for the reason that it gives so careful an analysis of the whole processes of the treatment of the insane in a large number of the best institutions in Great Britain and Ireland. It throws incidental light also upon the question whether it be the duty of this state to provide buildings sufficient in capacity to accommodate the whole, or nearly the whole body of our insane population. The number of private asylums in Great Britain and Ireland seems to be very much larger in proportion to the insane population, than in the United States. These private asylums relieve the state of the expense of erecting buildings for insane persons belonging to the wealthy classes. Private asylums in Great Britain are placed as completely under the supervision of the commissioners of lunacy, as are those belonging to the public authorities. They have over them the same right of inspection, and the same control of management.

In this way all dangers to personal liberty, sometimes apprehended from such asylums, are effectually met, and the prejudice against them formerly existing appears to have entirely subsided. Assuming private asylums to be under the supervision of the public authorities it is difficult to conceive any reason why the State should provide asylums for the wealthy who are suffering from insanity rather than for wealthy persons afflicted by fevers or consumption or bodily injuries requiring surgical treatment. It is an obvious principle of public policy that the State should not undertake to do for individuals what can be better, or equally well done by private enterprise. It is certainly improper to provide for the wants or personal misfortunes of the rich by taxation. The small number of private asylums in our country as compared with Great Britain and Ireland, suggests a question worthy of serious attention. Has the policy of the State been such as to discourage private enterprise, and to impose upon the public a large part of the burden of caring for the custody and treatment of the wealthy? An increase of private asylums would tend to relieve the State asylums now overcrowded, and diminish the necessity for the erection of new structures at public expense. When such asylums are placed by law under the same supervision with the State asylums, they can be liable to no especial dangers or abuses. Dr. Wilbur's report will be found valuable from its giving a detailed account of the duties and processes of supervision imposed upon the British Commissioners of Lunacy. It suggests the propriety of increasing the powers and defining more minutely the duties of those charged with the supervision of insane asylums. There is clearly something for us to learn from British practice and legislation in these respects. Whatever may be the opinions of the superintendents of insane asylums concerning the British practice, the examinations and discussions by the medical profession and by the public at large of the facts contained in this report cannot fail to be useful. So far as provision has been made for the employment of the insane at the Willard asylum, and to some extent in others, we believe that English and American experience will coincide. The question to be answered is: What is the reason that English superintendents are able to employ in useful labor something like three times as many of their patients as do those in our own country? Various reasons for this state of things have been given in reports of asylums, and the reported discussions of the meetings of associations of superintendents, or in journals devoted to the subject of insanity. But the great difference in reference to employment between foreign hospital administration, and our own seems to require an investigation of this subject. The interests of the State, and the interests of the unfortunate insane seem alike to demand it, and no person can have a deeper or more intelligent interest in reaching the

REPORT.

To the State Board of Charities :

During the last summer I made a brief professional visit to Great Britain, for the purpose of inspecting some of the asylums for idiots and the insane, in that country. Through the kindness of friends, I was accredited, by letters from the Governor of the State of New York and from members of the Board of State Charities, which gave me opportunities of observation that I might not otherwise have had.

These letters were accompanied by the request that I would report the results of my observations, on my return.

Having, myself, had the charge of a State institution for nearly 25 years, and having, in a former visit to Europe, seen something of the management of foreign institutions, I was not unfamiliar with the subject. Historically, the asylums for the insane deserve the first attention. I may premise this report with a few general remarks upon the subject of insanity. And, first, insanity is practically not a very curable disease. A contrary opinion is, however, often expressed in the reports of insane asylums. The hope of cure depends mainly upon prompt treatment. To induce the friends of patients to send them promptly to asylums where they may receive appropriate treatment, the statement is made that in a large majority of the cases sent to an asylum in the early stages of the disease (say within three or six months after its access), recovery may be assured. The proportion of recoveries in recent cases is variously estimated from 73 per cent to 90 per cent.

From some recent examination of the tables upon which these estimates are based, the correctness of these estimates may be fairly questioned. But there is an obvious fallacy in the statements of the specialists upon this point, which deserves a brief consideration.

The access of insanity is in two forms. The one is by a sudden outbreak, or by such unmistakable symptoms that suggest, if not demand, an early or immediate recourse to asylum treatment.

Following the law of disease, generally, this kind of insanity is a curable malady; perhaps to the extent of 50 per cent. But there is another mode of access of this disease, unfortunately too common, if not constituting the majority of cases, that is of an entirely different

character. This in its inception and in its progress is by insidious steps. It is a growth from small beginnings in physical or mental states, that are but exaggerations or slight perversions of normal functions and natural trains of thought and feeling.

The individual is, himself, unconscious; the friends fail to note the onset and the development of the malady, and it ripens into a positive and chronic form of insanity. The early and prompt treatment of such cases is rarely possible. This form of insanity is an intractable one, and will always be so.

Advance in medical science may help the matter a little, by enabling physicians to recognize the early stages of the disease. But not much hope of improvement can be based even upon this, for the reason, that the medical man, in the nature of the case, will not ordinarily be consulted till too late for efficient service.

Practically, judging from the statistics, given in the annual reports of asylums for the insane in the United States, less than 40 per cent of the admissions are found curable. Of this 40 per cent nearly 25 per cent have a return of the malady. Insanity, then, is a cumulative disease. In other cases of sickness the patient recovers or dies.

Of the 6,775 insane persons registered in the State of New York on the 31st of December, 1871, it could be shown, by a comparison of the different tables of statistics published by the Board of State Charities, that 90 per cent were hopelessly insane. The number taken insane during 1871 was 1,670; the number of recoveries, 761; of deaths, 593, this left an increase in the number of insane, at the end of the year, of 407, or over six per cent.

Of the number above stated, 6,775, about 60 per cent were a public charge.

Some provision, then, has to be made not only for the cure of constantly occurring cases of insanity, but for the care and custody of such of the number as prove to be hopelessly affected by the disease.

But enough has been said to show that the question as to the best management of the insane is one of very general interest to any community. What can be done to secure the prompt treatment of persons becoming insane? How shall our asylums be managed to insure the greatest number of recoveries in the case of persons thus afflicted? What can be done to ameliorate their condition, while under treatment and on the road to recovery, as well as when hopelessly insane? How may all this be accomplished with the greatest economy? And, finally, how can the personal liberty of the individual be insured against false imprisonment, on the plea of insanity?

How these questions are practically answered in Great Britain, it is the purpose of this paper to show.

Prompt treatment is a vital point in the case of the insane everywhere. It will depend mainly upon two or three circumstances.

First, easy access to institutions. With the small territory and dense population of Great Britain this is everywhere the fact. But the same carries with it an evil; and that, the supposed necessity for large asylums. The high price of land in many instances increases the supposed necessity. Even then it is ordinarily justified only by its assumed necessity. Most experts as well as the members of the Lunacy Boards express a preference for small asylums when practicable. In England, the so-called hospitals for the insane and the "licensed houses" are, with two or three exceptions, built to accommodate less than 250 patients each.

In Scotland most of the asylums are small.

Another circumstance, upon which prompt treatment may depend, is a growing prejudice *in favor* of asylum life and treatment.

In Great Britain, as everywhere else, there has been a strong prejudice against asylums for the insane. This has gradually given way to a different feeling. Among the influences that have contributed to this change may be mentioned, first, a thorough and intelligent governmental inspection; next, very liberal regulations as to the admission of visitors, related to patients and others; and, lastly, to the fact that the superintendents of such asylums are seen to be very ready to advise the removal of patients as soon as it can be done with safety.

Again, in the case of the wealthy and well-to-do classes, there are private institutions that are midway in character between a sanitarium and an asylum, to which a patient can be sent or go without seeming to have passed the line between sanity and insanity; to such, resort will be had when there would be a reluctance to entering an asylum.

The other questions may be answered in connection with a simple narration of the facts that fell under my observation while visiting the various British asylums.

I landed in Scotland, visiting there six leading and typical asylums; thence passing to England I visited, in succession, ten of the most characteristic insane asylums in that country. Crossing the channel, I visited a lunatic asylum at The Hague, and then the well-known colony of the insane at Gheel, in Belgium. Afterward, I went to Ireland, where I visited four asylums. Then returning to Scotland I finished up, by revisiting two or three of its asylums.

The institutions thus visited contained in the aggregate about 15,000 patients. I was received with great courtesy by the officers of the different asylums, and was furnished with all the information I desired as to their management. Every part of their establishments was freely thrown open for my inspection. As I customarily visited them without previous notice, I had the advantage of seeing these asylums in their every-day working order. With two exceptions, I inspected all the refractory wards, both male and female, of all the

asylums visited. I saw all the means of seclusion or restraint; I visited the various work-shops, the laundries and the kitchens, as also the grounds, where the patients were engaged in out-door occupations.

I also had the opportunity of conversing with members of both the Lunacy Boards of England and Scotland, who kindly advised me as to the institutions that were representative of the most advanced methods of management and treatment. I was also furnished with copies of their annual reports, as well as those of the Irish Board of Lunacy, through the politeness of the secretary of the last-named board.

I had frequent occasion to congratulate myself upon my good fortune in accomplishing the task I had assigned myself, in my tour of special observation.

To one familiar with American asylums or hospitals for the insane, there are some features in the management of British asylums that especially impress him; the great degree of employment or occupation furnished the patients; the absence of excitement among the patients, and the seldom recourse had to seclusion or any form of mechanical restraints; the large percentage of patients who occupied associated dormitories; the practice of assembling the patients in large dining halls for their meals; the employment of females, in many instances, in the care of male wards and as nurses in convalescent wards; the economy of management, seen both in the construction and current expense accounts; the fullness and minuteness of the daily and periodical reports and records of the several officers, and, finally, the thoroughness and efficiency of the governmental inspection through the Boards of Lunacy of the three kingdoms.

The two points first named, *i. e.*, the general employment of the patients and the absence of excitement, seem to be related as cause and effect, and were always so spoken of both by the superintendents of the institutions and the members of the Boards of Lunacy.

The economy of management and the completeness of the registers is, very evidently, in some measure, due to the supervision of the Boards of Lunacy above mentioned.

Though the actual powers of reform vested in the hands of these boards are limited, nevertheless their approval is an incentive to good management, obviously felt by the officials of every institution under their control.

In a table in the appendix to this report I have given some statistics as to the employment of patients in the several asylums visited, as also others. These tables are made up from the records of the different institutions. Each day the number of the patients employed and the nature of the employment is carefully registered.

Nor is the occupation confined to farming and gardening work and household offices, but there is actual trade-work. Mechanics are very

frequently employed as attendants, who, in addition to their special duties as such, have charge of the various shops.

At the West-Riding Asylum, where my opportunities of observation, through the kindness of Dr. J. Crichton Browne and his assistants, were very ample, the amount of trade-work done by the patients was quite remarkable.

Before speaking of this in detail, it may be mentioned that no asylum in England has a better reputation for the professional attainments and skill of its medical officers, and for the pathological and physiological results attained by the thorough scientific investigations of its earnest medical staff, permanent and honorary.

Take the record of a single day — one of the days of my visit — and notice the variety of occupation.

WEST-RIDING LUNATIC ASYLUM.

MALE DEPARTMENT, JULY 26, 1875.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Number of patients employed in out-door occupation..... | 181 |
| Number of patients employed in brew-house..... | 9 |
| Number of patients employed in engine and gas-house..... | 7 |
| Number of patients employed in blacksmith shop..... | 4 |
| Number of patients employed in plumbing..... | 2 |
| Number of patients employed as joiners..... | 9 |
| Number of patients employed in shoemaking..... | 15 |
| Number of patients employed in tailoring..... | 24 |
| Number of patients employed in weaving..... | 25 |
| Number of patients employed in upholstering..... | 6 |
| Number of patients employed in knitting..... | 19 |
| Number of patients employed in tin-smithing..... | 2 |
| Number of patients employed in painting and papering..... | 5 |
| Number of patients employed in book-binding..... | 3 |
| Number of patients employed in stone-masonry..... | 3 |
| Number of patients employed in mining..... | 3 |
| Number of patients employed in white-washing..... | 4 |
| Number of patients employed in picking hair or other occupations..... | 49 |
| Number of patients employed in kitchen and wash-house..... | 20 |
| Number of patients employed in assisting in wards..... | 142 |
| Total employed..... | 532 |

PATIENTS UNEMPLOYED.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Sick or too feeble | 18 |
| Aged and infirm..... | 45 |
| Too low-spirited | 31 |
| Too much excited..... | 47 |
| Too little mind | 25 |
| Able but unwilling..... | 10 |
| <hr/> Total unemployed..... | <hr/> 176 |
| <hr/> Total number of males | <hr/> 708 |

FEMALE DEPARTMENT.

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Employed in laundry and wash-house | 65 |
| Employed in passages and kitchen | 67 |
| Employed in sewing..... | 223 |
| Employed in knitting | 40 |
| Employed in cutting-out room | 8 |
| Employed in cleaning wards..... | 82 |
| <hr/> Total employed | <hr/> 485 |
| <hr/> Total unemployed..... | <hr/> 214 |
| <hr/> Total number of females..... | <hr/> 699 |
| <hr/> Percentage of patients employed | <hr/> 72 |

My inquiries elicited some additional facts in regard to the labor. There was but one paid employee in connection with each kind of mechanic work, except in the tailor's shop where there were two.

All the clothing of the men is made in this shop. In the shoe-shop but one paid attendant, though they turn out 60 pairs of shoes a week besides the mending. In fact, in 1874, they sold from this shop, besides the shoes furnished the patients, 1,100 pairs.

It may be supposed, perhaps, that these patients, thus at work as mechanics, came with a trade knowledge, but this was only partially true. Thus of the 25 in the tailor's shop, 13 had learned the trade at the asylum.

Of the 15 shoemakers, 7 knew nothing of the trade before admission. The same was true of patients employed in the other shops.

From the last annual report of this institution, I found that the occupation of the persons, when admitted, did not differ, materially, from those usually received into our State asylums.

From the same source I learned the physical condition of the patients admitted the preceding year:

| | |
|--|-----|
| In good bodily health and condition..... | 3 |
| In fair bodily health and condition..... | 11 |
| In feeble, very feeble and exhausted condition | 476 |
| Total admissions..... | 490 |

Looking at the aggregate of the patients, in this and the other British asylums, it must be confessed that they are a better looking set, physically, than the patients in some American asylums. When I made a remark, to this effect, to one of the officers where I was visiting, he replied, "this is doubtless, in the main, the result of their being much more in the open air and also of their general occupation." The exercise and the out-door life are there used as an important means in restoring bodily functions; in fact, the medical officers do not wait till the patients are in good bodily condition before putting them to work, but set them to work as one means of securing a healthful physical condition.

Dr. Cleaton, Superintendent of the Rainhill Asylum, near Liverpool, in one of his reports, ten years ago, made use of this language: "I am fully persuaded that, next to the disuse of mechanical restraints, the most important of recent improvements, in the treatment of the insane, is the extent to which occupation is adopted as an auxiliary to the pharmaceutical remedies."

It is very evident that there are economical advantages in such general employment of patients, in the manner thus described. While the number of attendants is perhaps not less, in proportion to number of inmates, than in our asylums, yet, the number of other paid employees is very much less: so that their wages account and their general current expense account seems very small, even after making proper allowance for the difference in the price of labor in the two countries. However, the economical aspect is the least of the considerations involved in this matter; the important result is, that occupation, bodily and mental, diminishes the excitement of the patients, produces quiet and contentment, and this obviates the necessity of seclusion and mechanical restraints.

I raised this question, of the relation of occupation and absence of excitement, at almost every institution visited and with nearly every medical officer with whom I conversed, and I heard but one opinion expressed on the subject.

To one familiar with the reports of the British Boards of Lunacy, it is quite obvious that one of the leading tests of good management of an asylum, in the minds of the members of these boards, is the per-

centage of employment of the patients and its outcome in diminished occasion for seclusion and restraint. As is well known, a difference of opinion exists, between the alienists of Great Britain and the United States, in regard to the use of mechanical restraints. The former, as a rule, advocate the general disuse of such means on account of the liability to abuse; in fact, one often hears the practice spoken of as a relic of barbarism; the latter advocate the same method as both indispensable and humane.

In visiting the British asylums one can see a partial reason for the views held there, in the fact that, owing to the degree of employment of patients, the occasions for the use of restraining apparatus are far less numerous than on this side of the water. Perhaps, if the superintendents of American asylums for the insane would but make a trial of the British mode of obviating the necessity for the use of restraining apparatus, they might modify their practice as to the frequency of its application.

At an early day, in the history of American asylums, some of their superintendents cherished similar opinions of the value of labor as a means of recovery and to abate excitement in the patients. In our own State, Dr. Brigham not only advocated labor as an important auxiliary in the management and treatment of the insane; but he started shops of various kinds and was constantly increasing the range of employments till his death. But his views upon the subject have gradually given place to others, and the work-shops he established have been, in the main, abandoned. It is now affirmed in one of the reports of the Utica Asylum, by its superintendent, "that he is well satisfied, from long and careful observation, that from 22 to 25 per cent. would be the highest estimate of six-hours workers who could be depended upon;" "in the women's department the average would probably be greater." In connection with this statement a table is given showing the percentage of labor to the whole population of the men's department for five years. This table shows that the actual percentage of male labor, for the five years, was less than 18 per cent.

Some 12 years since, Dr. Jarvis, of Massachusetts, one of the most experienced statisticians upon the subject of insanity, returned from a visit to Great Britain and made a report upon this very subject. He gave tables showing that in 15 English asylums the percentage of labor was on the average for males over 67, and of females over 69. I give the closing paragraph of his paper: "This is the result of the experiment in Great Britain, begun more than 20 years ago and continued with increasing extent and confidence ever since. How far it can be adopted in the insane hospitals in the United States, is a matter for the serious consideration of those who have their management in their hands, but, certainly, it is a matter of intense interest, both to those

who would administer this great system of charity and science with the greatest ease and effect, and to those who should enjoy every facility of restoration, if they are curable, and every means of diminishing their morbid excitability and distress, and of lessening the burden of their disease, if they cannot be restored."

His paper was discussed in the American Association of Superintendents of Insane Asylums. It was conceded, that in American asylums, but little account, comparatively, was made of employment of the patients. The main reason assigned was, that patients in this country were reluctant to labor. One member, however, made the wise suggestion that if occupation were so essential in the management and treatment of the insane, as English experience would seem to show, was it not the duty of those in charge of such institutions in America to enforce it, even if patients were unwilling. But unwillingness to work is not confined to the insane in America, as will be seen by the following extract from the Tenth Annual Report of the Argyll and Bute Asylum; says Dr. Rutherford, its able superintendent: "An aversion to regular, well-directed industry is a characteristic of chronic insanity; and in this institution, to combat the tendency to idleness, or to do only such things as are in accordance with the disordered fancy, is a leading principle of treatment. To see chronic lunatics, strong and in the prime of life, strolling about all day in pleasure grounds, each indulging in his own morbid thoughts, is, as may be imagined, a painful and depressing spectacle. Mere walking exercise, be it ever so regularly taken, has very little influence in counteracting these morbid manifestations." In another place he adds: "No difficulty is experienced with new cases coming into the asylum; they fall at once into the system already in force; more difficulty is experienced with those transferred from other asylums, where they have acquired habits of idleness."

Again it is alleged that the common people of Great Britain are naturally more subservient to authority than Americans; that they carry this over into insanity, and so are more obedient to the command to labor. It may be reasonably doubted whether, in modern times, outside the army and navy, subordination is a special characteristic of British subjects; but any such difference in submissiveness to authority, if it were a fact, is more than counterbalanced by the superior versatility of the American laborer or artisan in the matter of employments.

Another reason was, that work-shops had been tried in this country and proved a pecuniary failure. However, the brevity of the reported unsuccessful experiments was, perhaps, a sufficient cause for the assumed failure; more probably, the experiments failed, as all half-hearted measures will, through difficulties and obstacles not resolutely faced. At all events, as financial results are only the smallest aim of

such employments, other evidence is needed than the mere want of these, before declaring the system a failure. The discussion ended, and I am not aware that any practical result was attained by it in the direction of increased occupation of the patients in our asylums.

It may be said, and with truth, that it is a predominance of chronic cases that permits this large percentage of employment in British asylums, but this same fact is true in American asylums generally. The theory is, not that our institutions have a greater proportion of recent cases and, therefore, employment is impracticable, but it is a general want of faith in employment, as a means of treatment, in any form of insanity. Says Dr. Ray, an American alienist of large experience, speaking of Great Britain, "we find a much smaller amount of excitement, both of the paroxysmal kind and of those inferior grades which, while they do not deprive a patient of all self-control, render him too restless and fitful to labor to much purpose." This rules out labor for recent and excited cases. He regards this national difference as, probably, the effect of climate. The British authorities, however, explain the difference in apparent excitement, to our want of use of labor in the treatment of the insane.*

But, again, a few years since, some of the more practical-minded of the superintendents of insane asylums in this country, advocated the separation of the chronic from recent cases, in asylums specially designed for their use. They suggested, among other reasons, that they could be industrially occupied in farming and gardening

* While this report is in the hands of the printer, the annual report of Dr. Kirkbride, of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane, has come to hand. In it I find a paragraph that well illustrates the idea of American alienists on the subject of occupation, in the treatment of the insane; in distinction from the British views and practices, that I have attempted to set forth:

"The number who can labor profitably to an institution and advantageously to themselves is comparatively small. Even those who do labor, must be carefully watched, to prevent harm or injustice being done. This is especially so with recent cases. The working energy given by mental disease is often far beyond what is desirable for the patient. Walking and riding, however, are nearly always safe and available for almost every one of every class not actually confined to the house by acute sickness. For those who are unable to walk, good roads inside the grounds, with suitable vehicles and gentle horses, donkeys, or ponies that can be driven by almost any one, give a valuable resource for passive exercise and the benefits of being in the open air. Whatever a hospital can do to carry out more thoroughly and pleasantly any of these means of occupation is real progress."

In justice to Dr. Kirkbride, it should be said, that about half the patients submitted to his care are gentlemen and ladies unaccustomed, by previous habits, to any form of manual labor, and that he has put in practice a very complete system of amusements for his patients, that fills up a very large portion of their time. The mischief is, that his views, formed by dealing with an exceptional class, are adopted by other superintendents, who have to do with patients of an entirely different character and previous habits.

operations, as, also, in some mechanical departments of labor to a limited extent. But the prevailing voice of the association declared this a futile expectation; and Dr. Gray, one of its leading members, uses this language in one of his reports: "It might be supposed that in an asylum where patients are detained for custodial care, and where those not likely to be restored are only discharged when well enough to reside in their families, the amount of labor would be greater. I do not believe the difference would be material."

What the present policy and spirit of management is, in this country, may be seen in the following extract from the last *Journal of Insanity*, the recognized organ of the American Association of Alienists, and edited by one of the best known of their number. It is in a review of a report of a Scotch asylum, in which the superintendent had described the fullness of employment and the freedom that he had been enabled to allow his patients as the result of such completeness of occupation: "We gladly hail every step in advance, but before we could advocate the adoption of such a system here, it would be necessary to make a comparison of the classes of patients received into the institutions of this country with those in Scotland, and be sure of an advantage to be derived by sending the feeble, demented classes out in squads to do pretended labor, for in most cases it must be a mere pretense over allowing the relaxation and freedom obtained by voluntary exercise in pleasant airing courts, under proper supervision." This is the language of one who knows nothing, by observation, of the actual facts of the case, but who, evidently, discredits the statement of the superintendent, Dr. Fraser (for he speaks of pretended labor of demented classes), and thus it shows a want of faith in labor as a means of restoration or management. The Commissioners of Lunacy of Scotland, however, on the spot, and after a thorough inspection, left this record on the register of that asylum within a year past: "About 60, including both men and women, were actively engaged in securing the potato harvest; and of the whole inmates (240), only about 15 men and 30 women are absolutely idle. The result is, that great tranquillity was everywhere prevalent, or was but temporarily disturbed by the inspection. No one was in seclusion, and the isolation of patients with locked doors is of extremely rare occurrence, and even then, must, occasionally, be ascribed to the withdrawal of the attendants to other duties, rather than to any necessity for seclusion. No one is restricted to the airing courts for any cause than physical disability for extended exercise."

I have dwelt thus long upon the West-Riding Asylum for it is a typical institution. Were it not for the fact that some of the buildings are quite old and on that account, in a measure, ill-adapted to the carrying out of modern views upon the management of the insane; were it

not for the excessive number of patients, it would be a model institution. As it is, it shows what the remarkable administrative abilities of its superintendent, aided by accomplished and efficient assistants, can accomplish in spite of these drawbacks. The tables given in the appendix of this report will show that the West-Riding Asylum does not stand alone in the successful employment of the insane in England.

It must be confessed that the British asylums have one or two advantages for the general occupation of the males, not possessed by all American institutions of the same class. The climate is less rigorous there than in some of the northern States. The winters are shorter and less severe, thus extending the annual period for out-door operations. Still, the difference of climatic conditions is not as great as the difference between the habits of both officials and patients as to out-door exercise. It being understood that, as a rule, the patients must go out or go to their shops to work, the state of the weather is not so much thought of. Then, again, by the artificial summer temperature that is kept up in American asylums, and the habits of in-door life, the patients become hospitalized (as it has been expressively termed), to a degree that renders them averse and unfit for any exposure to inclement weather.

Their buildings, especially the recent ones, are better adapted for getting the patients out of doors. Prevaingly, they are of two stories, at all events only three; in either case, by a wise arrangement, the lower story is the day-room; all above for sleeping purposes. The attendants have only to open a door and the patients can walk out without the necessity of going down or up stairs in going out or coming in. This arrangement has its economical advantages, both in the way of heating and ventilation, in regard to which it is unnecessary to particularize. It may be said, perhaps, that the degree or percentage of employment of the patients, as given in the reports of British asylums, is exaggerated. Be it so, but what does that prove? Why, that employment is there, one of the accepted tests of good management in an institution.

It may, perhaps, be asked if this great amount of employment is compatible with the use of other means of mental diversion, that is, amusements of various kinds. It may be answered that English asylums are not behind ours in such resources. They have frequent entertainments of a varied character. There is a chapel, with exercises morning and evening; there is usually a fine hall for dramatic exhibitions. At the Sussex Asylum and at Brookwood, the stage-machinery and the properties were quite elaborate. Of course, there are cricket grounds and croquet grounds and frequent games. At the large asylums there is usually a band made up of attendants and patients, and I can personally testify to the excellence of the music. There are annual

fêtes and weekly dances, and excursions to objects of interest in the neighborhoods. The airing-courts of many English asylums differ from those of this country in several particulars. Many asylums have this arrangement. The entrance and the administrative offices are in the rear of the buildings, so that the patients' rooms overlook the ornamental grounds and command the fine prospects. The inclosing wall is sunk in such a manner, as not to obstruct the view or keep alive a sense of restraint and confinement. In other words, the institutions are built, and the grounds beautified, for the patients and not for the outside public nor to gratify the pride of a locality.

The superintendent of a Massachusetts institution, who visited the British asylums three or four years since, in his last report, expresses surprise at the absence or small number of pictures and engravings seen on their walls. While I think that such adornments are more common now than four years ago, yet there is probably less attention paid, even now, in Great Britain, to these, than with us; yet one hardly misses them in the presence of another fact. The British asylums are going through a process of renovation that covers their walls with cheerful papers or stenciled borders. But, best of all, the wards, even the refractory wards, are simply full of flowers, in pots; with vines running over the windows, and often one sees a variety of birds in cages. Even at Colney Hatch, one of the mammoth asylums, into which half London pours a never-ceasing stream of insanity, if I remember aright, there was but one airing-court that was not filled with trees and shrubs and flowers, and that, the one designed for demented epileptics. All these last-mentioned means of diversion from morbid thoughts and feelings are admirable in the case of the insane, but if they are the only means, they are obviously inadequate, except, perhaps, in the case of born or educated idlers, bereft of reason. The great resource must always be suitable occupation. Human beings, unless upset by maniacal excitement or sunk in dementia, crave it, and, even then, they can be, sometimes, made to desire it or be roused to some satisfaction in it.

In connection with this subject of labor, the question naturally will arise, how about trusting patients with tools of various kinds? Just before my visit to a large English asylum, one of the patients, a carpenter, had committed suicide. While at work he had secreted a chisel, and some time thereafter inflicted a fatal wound upon himself. Learning the fact, I made the inquiry of the physician, will not this be used as an argument against putting tools into the hands of patients; in other words, against trade-work for lunatics? His reply was substantially:—"I have been connected with this institution for seven years; there are a thousand patients; this is the third case of suicide; the other two were women who hung themselves with some article of

wearing apparel; we might as well, therefore, found an argument of double force against allowing female patients to wear clothing." He then referred to the fact, that too obviously, precautionary measures are a continual suggestion to the suicidal patient, that keep alive the disposition to make way with one's self; on the other hand, physical and mental occupation, in the direction of a useful purpose, tends to divert the suicidally inclined from their intention by turning their thoughts, habitually, in another channel; and by awakening in them, perhaps, the feeling that after all, they may be of some use in the world. And, further, in the case of unmistakable insanity there is no more stigma to be attached to death by suicide than any other form of death. I heard but one opinion expressed upon the subject, and what that was, is seen in the universal practice of the British asylums. Even in the asylum for insane criminals at Broadmoor 10 per cent of the patients were engaged in occupations that involved the use of tools that could be handled as dangerous weapons. It has been mentioned, repeatedly, in this report, that the good effect of employment of the insane is seen in the diminution of excitement, in the less occasion for the use of seclusion and mechanical restraints. Upon these conditions restoration to sanity often depends. The ratio of recoveries, therefore, in British asylums compares favorably with that of American institutions of the same class. But employment, judiciously planned, benefits the incurably insane, mitigates their lot. This it does by producing greater contentment and out of this contentment springs greater freedom. In England this larger liberty is as yet but a promise; seen, however, in general daily exercise in the open grounds and in prolonged walks beyond the boundaries of the institution; in the wider range necessitated by out-door and farming operations, and in the convalescent houses where the patients have a period of experimental freedom before an ultimate release.

In Scotland the percentage of employment of the insane is still greater than in England, and an experiment is now going on in the former country which bids fair to make what I have called a promise of larger liberty a successful realization. Within a few years in a certain Scotch asylum where the employment of patients had been pushed to its maximum the sagacious and kind-hearted superintendent thought that he would try the experiment of unlocking the doors of one of his best wards and paroling the patients. This worked well. He tried the next and so on till a large degree of personal liberty was enjoyed by nearly all the patients. Though the superintendent, Dr. Batty Tuke, has retired from this asylum, his successor, Dr. Fraser, has administered its affairs in the same benevolent spirit. It was my good fortune to spend a day there. I visited every part of the asylum. I saw the patients at their work and taking exercise. I made a copy

from their registers of the occupation of every patient on the day previous. From my own personal observation I cannot doubt the accuracy of the statements as to the number employed or the efficiency of their labor.

FIFE AND KINROSS ASYLUM.

EMPLOYMENT—MALES.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Carpenters | 2 |
| Shoemakers | 4 |
| Tailors..... | 1 |
| Stokers..... | 1 |
| Messengers..... | 6 |
| Gardeners..... | 2 |
| Field-workers..... | 58 |
| House-workers..... | 14 |
| Painters. | 2 |
| Total employed..... | 90 |
| Unfit for work.... | 32 |
| Total male patients..... | 122 |

EMPLOYMENT—FEMALES.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Laundry and kitchen..... | 27 |
| In work-room. | 86 |
| Field-workers..... | 1 |
| House-workers..... | 10 |
| Total employed | 124 |
| Unfit for work..... | 15 |
| Total females..... | 139 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Total number of patients..... | 261 |
| Dining in association | 246 |
| Attending prayers..... | 149 |
| Attending amusements..... | 169 |
| Attending school..... | 51 |
| On parole | 39 |
| In seclusion..... | none. |
| Under restraint | none. |

Next, as to the amount of freedom allowed to the patients. The day of my visit was a pleasant day in summer. I drove in at an open gate

which I was told was always open in summer, though 40 of the patients had a parole to go anywhere in the grounds. The doors of the administrative building stood open. Dr. Fraser took us at once through the male department, where I found every door unlocked; the male airing-court, unused and about to be taken down and its area thrown into the general grounds. The windows were like the windows of an ordinary house, the frames and sash of wood, with good sized panes of glass. Across the lower part of the windows were, in some instances, a few brass rods, a protection against falling out rather than a means of duress. The male convalescent ward, which accommodates some 35 patients, has its doors open from 6 A. M., till 8 P. M. The inmates of this last are, of course, on parole.

Two galleries in the female department still remain under the old system of locked doors; though not necessary for the majority of their inmates, yet the excitement of a few cases in each ward, rendered locked doors necessary. At the time of my visit to the female wards all the patients were out, except one woman who had a mania for scrubbing, and who was violently at work cleaning the ward; and two females in bed. The women had all been busy in the morning, but were now out for exercise in the open grounds. On the male side, two men were in bed, and one (a recent case) in seclusion in a padded room. Two or three strong rooms, on either side of the house, constitute the only means of seclusion; mechanical restraints are seldom used.

The following extract, from one of the last reports of this asylum, will best present Dr. Fraser's views on the subject of labor:

"Occupation is what I have the utmost confidence in. Its results are most beneficial. Almost every male patient can fill and wheel a barrow and the majority can use a spade. So almost every female patient can use a needle and thread or a knitting-needle. Constant supervision soon teaches one what is most suitable to each. Attention is being constantly and increasingly directed toward the occupation of both sexes. At the present date, all male patients, with the exception of from five to eight, are sent out every day in parties arranged according to their capabilities for work. Attendants accompany each set of workers. The head and sick-room attendants are the only ones retained in the house. On the female side there are three work-rooms, one devoted to the main sewing requirements of the house, and the others to teaching and encouraging to work of the idle and demented. In these three rooms are above 90 patients. The laundry, the kitchen and the house generally give employment to about 40 more, so that the actually idle are reduced to a minimum. My desire and aim is to make your asylum a veritable bee-hive. The men work both forenoon and afternoon, but their hours are not long. The females, though kept

at work in the forenoon, spend the afternoon in walking and out-door recreation."

It may be thought, perhaps, that the patients in this asylum are exceptionally of the chronic and harmless class, but the admissions were 35 per cent of the average resident population. The recoveries were 44 per cent on the admissions. Besides this, 30 improved cases, who were supposed to be harmless, were dismissed during the year. In Scotland this class of cases are remanded either to the custody of friends, are boarded out in private families, or drift into the lunatic wards of poor-houses.

With all this attention to employment of the patients, means of amusement are not neglected, nor is the pathological study of insanity overlooked at this asylum. I visited the pathological museum, which is one of interest. Their case-book will compare favorably with that of any institution in the kingdom.

Lest my observation in regard to the two points of employment and freedom should be regarded as that of a mere enthusiast, I will add that a few days before my visit, Dr. Arthur Mitchell, one of the Scotch commissioners of lunacy, had made one of the periodical inspections of the board. He had left the following record on the register:

"In visiting the male side of the asylum, every door was found unlocked. On the female side only three doors required to be opened by a key. Of the 248 patients in the asylum, 220 occupied unlocked rooms. This fact involves more than the mere removal or abatement of the sense of imprisonment. It is admittedly of importance to avoid the mere appearance of restraint, but much more than this is done here, the freedom accorded to the patients being real as well as seeming. On the male side, in so far as locked doors are concerned, no difference was seen between the arrangements of this asylum and those of a hospital for the treatment of ordinary diseases. It is satisfactory to be able to add that the effects on the management are to render it easier and cheaper."

The superintendent, Dr. Fraser, made this comment on the last sentence of the entry: "I do not think it easier for either officials or attendants, but that is not the question."

On another occasion and in regard to another matter, one of the commissioners of lunacy made this remark to me: "With the Boards of Lunacy," said he, "the question is not what is most convenient or most agreeable to the officers of institutions, but what most concerns, first, the recovery, and then the welfare and comfort of the patients. All personal considerations must bend to these."

I also visited the Midlothian and Peebles district asylum. This was a new asylum, designed to accommodate 240 patients, the number to be increased by a cottage system, each cottage to accommodate 10 patients.

At the time of my visit there were but 168 patients. Out of this number 148 were actually employed, and on the average six hours a day. The customary ward cleaning was done before eight o'clock in the morning. Of this number (168) all but 18 dined in the common hall on the day of my visit. Confined to bed, three males and four females.

As a natural result of this general occupation, quiet everywhere prevailed. The register showed that there had been but one case of seclusion during the nine months since the asylum had been opened. There had been no case of restraint, no strong or peculiar dress of any kind worn during the same period. Here, as at Cupar, the main gate was open. I went through the whole establishment and the superintendent had occasion to use a key but once, and that in passing from the male to the female side of the house. In the original plan the architect had built one airing-court for refractory cases, but the patients were busily engaged in leveling it on the day of my visit.

Here I saw a low iron fence between the exercise grounds of the males and the females. I was led to remark to the superintendent that one could get over that fence on crutches. Pointing to a gate without a lock, he replied, "But it is easier to go through the gate." One of the cottages, just completed, was a model of convenience and economy.

The superintendent of this institution had full faith in the policy of the general employment of the insane, and in the practicability of allowing a great amount of freedom.

While in Edinburgh I had the privilege of a personal interview with Sir James Coxe and Dr. Arthur Mitchell, two of the Scotch commissioners of lunacy. They kindly advised me as to what asylums I should visit, to see the characteristic features of their system. They were especially desirous that I should visit the Argyle and Bute asylum, and a small one at Banff. I was unable to visit either with the time at my command. I am able, however, to give some statistics of each, from the annual reports of the lunacy board.

At the Argyle and Bute asylum, there were 217 patients. Of this number there were only 32 idle, either from sickness, old age, or mental condition, making the usefully employed about eighty-five per cent of the whole. That this high percentage was not obtained by enrolling a large number of patients as house-cleaners, will appear from the following statement of actual occupations on the day of the visit of the commissioners:

OCCUPATIONS OF THE MEN.

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----|-----------------------------|---|
| Trenching, leveling, etc..... | 25 | Driving carts | 2 |
| Working in the garden..... | 8 | Herding cattle and cleaning | |
| Making road metal..... | 2 | byre | 3 |

| | | | |
|------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|----|
| Acting as shepherd..... | 1 | Assisting storekeeper | 1 |
| Working with mason | 2 | Cutting wood..... | 1 |
| Building dry-stone dyke..... | 4 | Acting as house-cleaners | 10 |
| Thinning turnips | 31 | | — |
| Working with engineers.... | 3 | Total | 96 |
| Working with joiner..... | 3 | | == |

OCCUPATION OF WOMEN.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----|---------------------------|----|
| Engaged in needlework | 25 | Acting as housemaids..... | 3 |
| Working in kitchen | 8 | House-cleaners..... | 14 |
| Thinning turnips | 7 | Teasing hair of old mat- | |
| Working in laundry | 8 | tresses | 8 |
| Spinning..... | 4 | | — |
| Acting as dairy maid | 1 | Total | 82 |
| Knitting stockings | 4 | | == |

SOME FACTS IN RELATION TO THE BANFF DISTRICT ASYLUM.

"There are 43 men and 47 women at present in the asylum. The house was in excellent order, and presented an aspect of great comfort and cheerfulness. There was no excitement among the patients of either sex, and their appearance indicated a full and suitable dietary. A large amount of freedom continues to be accorded to the patients. Eighteen are on parole within, and ten beyond the grounds. Of the men, it is said there are twenty who could be sent to Banff without an attendant. About thirty go to the parish church, but only twenty of them at a time; they are not accompanied by an attendant."

After describing the various out-door employments in which the patients were engaged, in some cases without supervision, the commissioners add, "No accident is recorded; there is no entry in the register of restraint and seclusion. One woman only had been placed in a locked room. No such thing as locked boots, quilted blankets, canvas dresses, strait jackets, or any special contrivance of dress, exists in the institution."

I made two visits to the Royal Edinburgh asylum. At the first, I inspected the West House, where are accommodated nearly 700 indigent cases or persons who paid a moderate price of board.

Here, I found them making numerous alterations, among which were increasing the room and the facilities for indoor occupations, and leveling all the airing-courts, thus bringing all the refractory patients into the general grounds for exercise. Here, only some 55 per cent of the patients were employed, owing to the moderate amount of land belonging to the institution, and also to the quite crowded state of the buildings. It may be remarked in passing, that this small percentage of

employment has been made a matter for unfavorable comment by the lunacy commissioners; as also the fact that seclusion and mechanical restraints were more frequently resorted to than was found necessary in many other asylums. They do not hesitate, however, to impute it in great measure to overcrowding, and the want of sufficient exercise or occupation.

At my second visit, I spent the whole time at the East House, where are 70 pay-patients of the better class. The main building for their accommodation is more than 60 years old. It was built on an old plan; corridors on one side of wings, and with single rooms for patients on the other. There were sitting-rooms attached where the patients also took their meals. In another wing were suites of rooms for patients of the wealthy class, with a drawing-room of some elegance, where the patients assembled in the evening or at other times. This building had just undergone a complete renovation. Tasteful decorations concealed the age of the older portions of the structure, and it was variously modified to meet advanced views of management. The old iron window guards and frames had given place to plate-glass windows with wooden sash, even to the third story. In the drawing-room in the second story, already mentioned, I noticed that all the windows opened to their full height.

The patients in six small wards may be said to be under lock and key while indoors, but in the new wings of this building and in three or four cottages, the superintendent, Dr. Clouston and myself, went in and out without the use of a key. In these, also, the windows were like those of an ordinary house. I learned that these quarters are locked only at night.

Each year a large house is taken at the sea-shore, where such patients as would be benefited by the change, are taken in companies to spend a short period.

There is now no airing-court in this whole establishment. It should be mentioned, that in the opinion of Dr. Clouston, a superintendent of large experience, it would be well to have one or two airing-courts in an institution as large as this to meet the wants of a few cases. In the most refractory female wards I saw here a piano, as I believe was the case in every asylum visited in Scotland. Dr. Clouston expressed himself in favor of small-sized institutions, and of individual treatment of the insane in distinction from class treatment.

Any report of what is going on in Scotland, in the direction of greater freedom for the insane, greater assimilation to the conditions of treatment of ordinary disease and invalidism, would be inadequate that did not mention a new asylum just now completed a short distance from Glasgow.

It is built by a large and wealthy corporation of that city, as a paro-

chial asylum. It will accommodate 400 patients, but the administrative buildings are designed for a much larger number, as there are to be extensions of its capacity on the cottage system. It is to be under the superintendency of Dr. Rutherford, who, by his admirable management of the Argyle and Bute asylum, has made that institution the pet institution (as I heard it expressed) of the commissioners of lunacy.

Many of the features of the new asylum are the result of his opinions and suggestions. It is simply complete in all its arrangements and appointments. In its domestic arrangements it embodies every modern contrivance for convenient or economical administration, and British art in that direction is in advance of the world, it would seem to me.

It has a chapel with stained-glass windows. It has an amusement hall of fine proportions and stage appointments. Its dining hall is all that could be desired.

Though the building is but two stories at the highest, and covers a large ground surface, its various parts are so connected by covered ways, that each are within easy reach of the others, or of the general places of assembly. The work shops and the laundry are admirably arranged for the employment of the patients.

There are a few strong rooms in each department for the seclusion of excited and refractory patients, and then all other arrangements are like those of any well-ordered hospital for the treatment of disease.

There were no spring-locks on any doors in the house. The windows were like those in an ordinary house and without guards. The furniture was in no way peculiar, except that the table ware was quite elegant. There were no airing-courts. The main front of the building, and that the patients' front, looked out upon what, when finished, were to be ornamental grounds; and these bounded by an open iron fence, on the other side of which runs a railroad of immense passenger traffic; perhaps 20,000 passengers a day. In fact, such is the faith of Dr. Rutherford in the effect of employment in tranquilizing the patients, that he may be said to court observation of the grounds where his most refractory patients take their exercise.

Dr. Fraser, of the Fife & Kinross asylum, had expressed an opinion, that perhaps the great amount of freedom he allowed his patients might not be practicable except in asylums of moderate size — say with 250 patients — and not in too close proximity to a large city. But Dr. Rutherford had no doubts of success, with open wards even with a much larger number. All he asked was abundance of land for outdoor work and well arranged work-shops.

In some tables in the appendix of this report, the percentage of employment of patients, in some of the leading asylums in Scotland, may be seen. Even the lunatic wards of poor-houses furnish no exception

to the prevailing policy of occupation for the insane, and with like beneficial results.

Take, for example, the Govan Poor-House. I quote the testimony of one of the commissioners of lunacy. And perhaps this is one of the most instructive features of British experience for American consideration.

The numbers of inmates are 44 males and 46 females. The numbers industrially employed are 30 males and 32 females. Some idea of the extent of the diligence of the latter may be formed from the number of articles made by them in the course of a year. "These comprise 253 sheets, 149 caps, 53 pairs of stockings, 159 aprons, and 9 dresses, for the governor's store, and 14 shifts, 4 jackets, 2,765 shirts, and 4 pairs drawers, for warehouses in town. From the money received from the warehouses the patients are provided with articles of dress and ornament, which could not otherwise be supplied to them and are thus led to take an interest in their work, and at the same time in their personal appearance. By this arrangement the interests of the establishment and the happiness of the patients are alike promoted."

I have mentioned that the experiment of larger liberty for the insane is of quite recent date. Nevertheless, it has been adopted at five or six asylums and with acknowledged satisfaction by those who have their immediate charge. It requires, of course, the same kind of courage that was manifested by Pinel and Connolly in the advanced steps in the management of the insane, now so generally and approvingly associated with their names. Furthermore it is a step that meets the hearty concurrence and approval of the Scotch Lunacy Board, and it is by them commended for trial to the management of all the other asylums.

There is another aspect of both these questions, namely, of employment and freedom, that ought not to be overlooked. How greatly must they contribute to the comfort and pleasure of the patients. Something to do and something to think of, and a degree of personal liberty, instead of listless efforts to kill time, to wear out the weary hours between them and the hoped-for deliverance from a galling sense of restraint and confinement. With an ocean between us and an experience so contrary to all our accepted notions of the necessity of close confinement for the insane, I could hardly hope for a ready belief in the accounts above given, did these depend upon my observation alone. I have accordingly freely quoted the opinions of the lunacy commissioners, physicians of experience and men of comprehensive social views.

As bearing upon this question of freedom I extended my tour of observation to the noted insane colony at Gheel, in Belgium. There I found about 1,300 insane men and women, all but 40 of whom were

actually living in the families of the village and commune. A central asylum under the superintendence of Dr. Bulckens, one of the most accomplished of European alienists, receives all new-comers till their fitness for boarding out has been determined, as also their needs in the way of medical or other treatment; it also receives all cases of periodical insanity, when the paroxysm is upon them; where they betake themselves or are brought by their family care-takers to this central house of refuge, for appropriate treatment and care.

The entire population of the commune is about 12,000, and most of the families admit insane boarders. As a rule, not more than three patients are allowed in any family. Thus located they become, in a measure, or are treated as members of the family. They sit at the common table, have the same fare and labor in household duties or in whatever line of industry is the occupation of the master of the house. I first went to the asylum and was introduced to Dr. Bulckens. He took me through the entire building, calling my attention to every thing noteworthy. Of the whole 1,300 patients, under his charge, only four were in seclusion, three males and one female; of the whole number, only 40 under restraint or duress of any kind. That no great amount of restraint is ever used, was seen in the fact that there were but two padded rooms and four strong rooms, and only 14 single rooms in the whole establishment. The asylum is surrounded by about five acres of land, the cultivation of which supplies the family with vegetables. The patients here were employed in household and gardening operations. The provisions for bathing and ventilation were complete and the house was exceedingly neat; the sleeping arrangements were all that could be desired. The airing-courts were filled with shrubs and flowers. The accommodations of the outside pensioners depend upon the pecuniary condition of their friends. Not only are the poor farmers and villagers willing to receive the insane into their families, but wealthy patients find quarters in families where the appointments and the fare are quite elegant. For the poor person, who has become insane, it is no hardship to be placed in a family and in circumstances like those of his prior daily life; for the wealthy, who can afford to pay, it is well to have surroundings in accord with their previous tastes and habits. The price varies from \$1.25 a week to \$15 or \$18.

The location of the patients is determined by the general director. All are subject to his visitations as well as that of his assistants; besides this there is a governmental supervision and control. The feature of the system is the seeming freedom of the patients, the utter absence of restraint; and yet, with all this freedom, the patients are under a constant guardianship, of which they are unconscious. Not only the family in whose care they are, but the whole community are on the watch that they shall do no harm and receive no harm. It is so much the

business of the whole community that a spirit of watchfulness pervades all classes; and not only so, but they are all alive to guard against any thing that will bring the system into disrepute, not only in their own management but in that of their neighbors. They are all experts in the management of the insane. When I asked one woman how long she had taken pensioners, she replied: "Ten years, then 20 years and finally, ever since I was married." I went through the town visiting numerous houses; mechanics' houses where the patients were at work; then into what are called second-class accommodations, and finally into one of the finest houses in town. I was everywhere received politely and shown all the household arrangements. After a while I started out into the country, calling at every house. I made a long day of it and finally returned to the hotel to spend as long an evening, in conversation with an intelligent Hollander, once a patient, who had been my companion and interpreter through the day. For all the weak points in the system, that I could think of, he made an adequate defense. Here, as in Scotland, the hinge upon which all this personal liberty, all this contentment, all this freedom from excitement turns, is in the fact of the general employment and industry of the patients.

After such actual inspection of this Belgian colony I can indorse the following language of the eminent German alienist, Dr. Griesinger: "The experiment of Gheel has proved that the greater number of the insane do not require the confinement of an asylum; that many of them can safely be trusted with more liberty than these institutions allow, and that association in the family life is very beneficial to many insane patients."

It may be mentioned that an experiment is now being made in Scotland in colonizing a certain number of the insane poor and with some degree of success. In the United States we lack the class of families that render the system practicable in Belgium and Scotland.

In this account of my tour of observation I have dwelt mainly upon the two points of general employment of the insane in industrial occupations and its tranquilizing effects, and the growing amount of personal liberty accorded to the inmates of asylums. The facts presented have been drawn chiefly from the experience of a few institutions. Had my observation been confined to these it might have been said, and I might have thought myself, that these features of asylum management were peculiar to these thus referred to, the result perhaps of the eminent personal qualifications of their officers. Yet, what I saw at these was but the type of the general policy in the management of the insane in Great Britain. My note-book is full of like methods and analogous results seen at other institutions. On one occasion I heard West Riding spoken of by a competent authority as the best managed *large asylum* in England, but with the evident assumption

of the speaker that its very size did not allow it to stand in comparison with Sussex or Brookwood, Glamorgan and others of more manageable proportions. I have no occasion to make comparisons, but can speak in terms of commendation of nearly all the institutions visited. Unless my prior prejudices grossly warped my judgment, as a rule, the advantage was with the institutions of moderate size.

I come now to speak of an institution, that is unique in one of its features; namely: in the prominence given to school exercises, as a part of the moral treatment. It is the Richmond District Lunatic asylum at Dublin. I had a letter of introduction to its superintendent, Dr. Joseph Lalor, but he was unfortunately away. His assistants kindly took me in charge, and I spent the first afternoon visiting the female department, which occupies an old and inconvenient structure. As there was no school at the time, I saw only the school-rooms.

The next day I returned to visit the male department. It being Saturday, even on the occasion of the second visit, I did not see the regular school exercises. I, however, found the male department accommodated in a fine new building that had some admirable features. The head master kindly called his pupils together, and I saw some of the results of his training. It was in every way of great interest.

Just before my visit, the British Medico-Psychological Association had held its annual meeting at Dublin. There was a large gathering of well-known alienists on this occasion, and they had devoted some time to the inspection of these schools. There is a complete system of instruction, with a full schedule of daily exercises, beginning with object lessons, and including the whole range of elementary English studies.

One of their number, Dr. D. Hack Tuke, has since given, in the October number of the *Journal of Mental Science*, a glowing account of this visit, and an admirable summary of the results attained. From his account, I copy some statements that will have more weight than any thing that I could offer.

First, as to the patients. There were at the commencement of the year, 1039 patients, of whom 485 were males and 554 were females. Of these, by far the larger number were laborers, domestic servants, tailors and seamstresses, shoemakers, carpenters, and shop keepers. There were 14 students and teachers, and five professional men. These figures will show the class of patients upon which educational influence is brought to bear. Not a few on admission were unable to read and write, while the others were in various stages, as regards education.

Of this number, 120 men and 130 women were in the practice of

attending school daily. It may be interesting to know the number employed in other occupations. Men—garden and farm laborers, 90; assisting servants to clean house, 65; miscellaneous employment, 27; shoemaking, 12; tailoring, 11; painting, 5; carpentry, 3. Women—needlework, 114; assisting servants, 67; miscellaneous, 33; assisting in laundry, 55; knitting, 15; quilting, 9; fancy work, 1; leaving somewhat more than one-fourth unemployed.

After describing the various exercises in detail, he concludes by expressing the strong conviction that the introduction of schools into all county asylums is of the greatest importance. The immediate effect of such instruction in causing actual recovery, may not be apparent; but inasmuch as the ratio of recoveries on admissions at this asylum, was the high percentage of $45\frac{1}{2}$, he thinks it not illogical to connect the fact, in part at least, with the school system pursued by Dr. Lalor. Dr. Tuke concludes by devoting a page or two to urging the introduction of a similar school system into English asylums.

It may be mentioned in this connection that schools were a common feature in the early history of American asylums. As in the case of industrial employments, they have gradually given way to a rather exclusive drug treatment, in accord with the theory that insanity is always and only a physical disease. The wisdom of the fathers of psychological medicine has become un-wisdom to their professional descendants, but, unfortunately, as our insane asylum reports bear witness, the ratio of recoveries on admissions is too frequently a diminishing one, and the army of chronic insane is each year receiving constant additions.

Some account should be given, perhaps, of the different classes of institutions in Great Britain for the treatment and care of the insane.

The first to be spoken of are the private asylums. These, as they are required to take out a license from the Boards of Lunacy, are known as licensed houses, asylums or hospitals, as the case may be. One class of these receive patients from wealthy families, upon terms which vary with the accommodations furnished, or perhaps, as in ordinary medical practice, somewhat upon the reputation of the physician in charge. They are subject to a very rigid and frequent visitation by the boards above named. Another class of institutions receive pay patients upon more moderate terms, and, in a few instances, also admit patients supported at public charge, upon terms agreed upon with the proper authorities.

Of these private asylums there are more than a hundred in Great Britain. From inquiries made in a variety of directions, I feel assured that the following comment upon their management in Ireland, which

I find used by the Lunacy Commissioners of that country, could very properly be extended to those of England and Scotland :

"Looking to the general working of private licensed houses in this country during the past year, we are gratified at being able to report that not a single cause of complaint sufficient to need an official inquiry was preferred to the executive or the inspectors."

In the case of the smaller ones, the treatment is as individual as in private medical practice, and the degree of confinement is constantly adjusted to the daily needs of every patient. At the head of these private asylums will be found men whose names are well known to the profession throughout the world. I found no prejudice against private asylums among those best qualified to judge of their management.

To the licensed hospitals we have in the United States corresponding institutions, thus: the Bloomingdale Asylum, the Penn. Hospital, at West Philadelphia; the Retreat, at Hartford, etc.

There is one feature of these institutions that deserves mention.

In social life in Great Britain, as is well known, very marked distinctions exist, and the same distinctions are measurably recognized in these hospitals for the insane. Thus we find differences of accommodations, in style of living and in fare, existing in one institution, though the medical treatment will be the same in all cases.

Then come the county asylums, which, in the main, correspond with our State asylums. These receive patients from the average population, who are able to pay a moderate charge for their care and maintenance; and also the indigent and pauper cases.

The harmless insane are sent to the ordinary poor-houses, or are dismissed from the county asylums to the families from which they came.

Within a few years, in some of the larger counties, such cases together with adult idiots are collected in custodial asylums, specially erected for their use. All the institutions above described are under the supervision of the Boards of Lunacy.

The result of this classification of institutions is to take out of the county asylums most pay cases. This leaves the county authorities opportunity to adjust both the expenditures for construction account, and also for current expenses with a proper reference to the rights and interests of the tax payers.

It seems to be a settled principle in Great Britain that the State is under no more obligation to provide hospital accommodations and treatment for the wealthy or those able to pay, in the case of cerebral disease than in any other. Exception is of course made in the case of dangerous lunatics, but even then the cost is a legal charge upon the relatives and friends.

The result is, that there being no institutions, subsidized by the State, for the reception of the wealthy classes, there have sprung up, in

accordance with the law of supply and demand, these excellent private asylums which fully meet their wants.

In a small number of cases this division may, for the time, seem to operate disadvantageously. Thus there are now, doubtless, a few persons accustomed to a better style of living, to whom the accommodations and the fare of the county asylums will be somewhat distasteful. But there is at this time an agitation of the question which will probably result in the establishment and endowment of what may be called middle-class asylums, to meet the conditions of this very class. The cause is one that will appeal strongly to the sympathies of the wealthy and benevolent, and be sure to bring a proper response.

I have had occasion to make constant reference to the agency and the opinions of the British boards of lunacy in the preparation of this report. But there was no help for it. They represent the government in their relations to all the institutions that have the care of the insane. Their care and protection even penetrate to the insane individual in the custody of friends. They guard the personal liberty of every person in the realm, of high degree or low, against its infringement on a false plea of insanity. At certain periods, they see personally every patient in every institution, and, if desired, grant a private interview, apart from the officers in charge, to listen to any alleged grievance. When occasion calls, they follow any charges against the administration with an impartial and rigorous investigation.

They examine the daily records and other registers, both professional and administrative. They make suggestions to bring the management in accord with the established principles of modern social science, to promote the comfort and happiness of the patients. No policy of management is unconsidered; no detail of method or appliance escapes their observation or is beneath their thought.

They stand between the management and the tax payer. All plans of building are submitted to them for approval; and, while demanding for the patient all that social science demands, they are consistent and earnest advocates for economy of construction. To my inquiries of one or more of these commissioners of the present cost of asylums for the insane, they gave as a maximum £150 per patient, including land and furniture. This, reduced to American currency, would be about \$850 for each patient.

The Surrey County Asylum at Brookwood, known all over England as a model asylum, has just erected a new building for 300 patients that meets the entire approval of the commissioners. It is complete in itself, with kitchen and laundry, and all other domestic offices. After spending some hours in inspecting it, I could see no way in which it could be improved. This building, properly equipped and furnished, was completed at a cost of less than \$750 per patient.

Of course, they cannot absolutely prevent, even lavish, outlay of public money in construction accounts, for ambitious managers and architects will sometimes transcend the bounds of a reasonable expenditure in that direction; but they do discourage and deprecate it in all their utterances.

But there is in Great Britain another safeguard against such squandering that, most unfortunately, does not apply in the construction of State asylums in America. It is this: The tax to meet such outlay is drawn from the same locality where it is expended, and the members of the boards of management are among the largest tax payers of the region. Thus their own pecuniary interests and a sense of responsibility to an immediate constituency equally interested together act as a strong check against extravagance.

That the American tax payer needs some such intervention, from some quarter, is seen in the palaces that are now being erected in this State, and so fittingly condemned in the last annual message of Governor Tilden—in New Jersey and in Massachusetts—with construction accounts varying from \$2,500 to \$5,000 a patient; in other words, from two to four times the amount that is needed. The only possible plea for such extravagance is durability. And this is the last quality to be thought of in any hospital—much less in an insane asylum. The history of such institutions is the record of a continual outgrowth of structures and appliances once thought ample or adequate. That the end is not yet, is seen in the fact that a wide difference of policy of management still exists in different countries. The State Board of Charities, in Massachusetts, in their last annual report, with a grim facetiousness, have analyzed some of the expenditures of the new asylums for the insane in that State, showing the utter lack of common business knowledge that has characterized the expenditure of the public money in that direction.

Furthermore, these commissioners scrutinize the current expense accounts of every asylum; comparing them with each other in minute detail; reproving waste or parsimony, and publishing, annually, instructive comparative tables of every form of expenditure in the several institutions.

But again, they stand between the inmates and any undue penuriousness of management where such exists, by enforcing all laws that inure for the benefit of the insane in asylums; by securing legislation that contributes to that end; by letting day-light in upon any discovered abuses or inadequacies of management; but, above all, by creating and moulding a public sentiment that even penuriousness and stupidity cannot well withstand.

Passing from one institution to another, in familiar intercourse with their several officers, and with full daily records of every detail of man-

agement or mode of treatment, and seeing diverse and individual methods of accomplishing the same or similar ends, they acquire comprehensive views of the whole subject. They are tolerant of shortcomings in administration where circumstances are adverse, but equally ready and bold in dealing out deserved censure to the management of any institution, whatever its supposed prestige or privilege.

By virtue of this successive visitation, they are not only authorities whose good opinion and commendation are to be desired, but experts whose counsel and suggestion are of no small value. All these functions are so wisely and discreetly performed, that only on one or two occasions did I hear from officers of institutions any disparagement of their intentions or any complaint of their administration.

It may be asked, perhaps, are there, then, no abuses in British asylums; no mismanagement? Of course, there are occasional instances of abuse and mismanagement. Incompetent and inefficient officials are to be found the world over and in every kind of institution. So, too, lazy and brutal attendants will find opportunities for shirking and misconduct. But with the thorough governmental supervision exercised by the Boards of Lunacy, and with the humane legislation and humane public sentiment that they have originated and fostered, the tendency is all the while to an improved condition of management; to the reduction of abuses to a minimum.

Any one familiar with their annual reports will have seen that mismanagement and incompetency on the part of officials, neglect and cruelty on the part of attendants are never covered up. Investigations are never smothered in the fear that they may create a prejudice against any institution; but actively and fearlessly prosecuted. The wonder is, in view of the thoroughness and minuteness of their inspection, and with the more than 60,000 insane under their general charge, and in a great variety of circumstances, that so few casualties, so few causes of complaint occur.*

The Anglo-Saxon remedy for public mal-administration and incompetency is publicity, and so these Boards of Lunacy in their annual reports publish every thing of the kind. These reports furnish texts for editorials in the leading papers of the kingdom. The effect is seen in a growing conformity, in the management of the various institutions, to the views and requirements of the commissioners, and in a general

* In looking through the reports for 1874, of twenty British asylums, containing in the aggregate about 15,000 patients, I find that there were but seven accidental deaths, and these nearly all in the case of paralytics and epileptics; and only five suicides.

In the annual report of the Commissioner of Lunacy of the State of New York for 1875, where are given the statistics of thirteen institutions, containing in the aggregate about 3,500 insane persons, there is found the record of twelve suicides. Other casualties are not noted.

elevation of the standard of public provision to meet the needs of the whole class of insane.

We have, then, in the management of the insane in Great Britain, three classes of officials with correlated, but well defined, functions.

First, the medical superintendents. These, selected for their attainments, skill and administrative qualities, manage all the internal affairs of the institutions of which they have the immediate charge. They direct in all that pertains to the daily life of the patients; all that pertains to the cure or amelioration of their condition, subject only to the rules and regulations of their respective boards of visitors.

Next, the committees of visitors, men of character, position and influence, representing a county, municipality, or incorporation, and chosen to manage the general financial interests of the particular institution under their supervision. They meet often to consult about its affairs, and by sub-committees and individual inspection, they are able to render intelligent and efficient service in the management of its affairs.

Above these both are Boards of Lunacy, whose scope and functions I have already mentioned. These are a proper culmination to a well-adjusted general system of management for the insane.

So intimately related were their various offices and functions to all that was best in British asylum management, that the main conclusion of all my observation was this: *That, in this country, the welfare and comfort of the insane and the various correlated interests of society, would meet on common ground, not until every State in the Union had some legally constituted board, alike in powers and functions to those of the British Boards of Lunacy.*

H. B. WILBUR.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., January 8, 1876.

APPENDIX.

been a generally accepted doctrine, in the medical profession, insanity, in its early stages, is quite a curable disease. It was from the published opinions of the specialists, in asylum reports where. Let me quote one or two passages illustrating this

nity in its early stages is one of the most curable of nervous

The easy curability of insanity, in its early stages is a well-axiom, confirmed by an enormous volume of evidence, from here is no escape."

er eminent authority says of recent cases that, "probably, 80 and possibly 90 per cent, would be cured if submitted promptly nent."

6th, Annual Report of the Hudson River Hospital, the follow-
age will be found: "The position which we would maintain
this: Of those who become insane, and who are so favored as
on and rightly cared for, more than 80 per cent are restored to
health; while on the other hand, brain diseases becomes chronic
proportion to the delay which it incurs in securing proper
at.

here be any reliance on human observation and testimony, it is
safe to affirm that chronic insanity would ere long, dwindle to
tive insignificance, were every patient, within a few days from
ek, placed under good medical and hospital care."

argument here, is one frequently used in behalf of expensive
s for the insane; namely, that chronic insanity would almost
r if patients were but promptly treated in such institutions.
nately, the facts of the case, by no means justify these san-
pectations of the specialists. On the contrary, an examina-
the statistics of our older institutions for the insane, reveals the
fact, that the ratio of recoveries to admissions is an annually
ing one, in spite of much-vaunted pathological investigations,
remedies and the more prompt submission of the insane to
at.

uld seem as if these strongly expressed opinions were based upon
of traditional impression in the specialty.

old statistics of the Friends' Retreat, at York, in England,
gin to these impressions, apparently. Either the disease has

changed since the date of those tables and kindred observations, or else there has been some misinterpretation of the facts. It would be safe to assert that the statistics of the Hudson River Hospital would in no degree warrant the language of its superintendent, above quoted. They are not found, at all events, in its reports. In the reports of the asylum at Utica, carefully prepared statistics are given related to this point, and a table made up from these is here annexed. These are given not as absolute results, but as proximate results. Some of the admissions of 1874 will doubtless be cured in 1875. On the other hand, some cured in 1869 and '70 were from the admissions of 1868.

Many have been removed or dismissed "improved" and "unimproved," of which no account is taken. Such removals or dismissals, as a rule, are acknowledged "incurables."

ADMISSIONS.

| YEAR. | Total. | Less than three mos. insane. | Less than six mos. insane. | Less than one year insane. |
|------------|--------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1869..... | 457 | 189 | 251 | 318 |
| 1870..... | 471 | 257 | 308 | 364 |
| 1871..... | 499 | 156 | 196 | 291 |
| 1872..... | 385 | 133 | 186 | 239 |
| 1873..... | 399 | 135 | 191 | 255 |
| 1874..... | 356 | 134 | 194 | 245 |
| Total..... | 2,567 | 1,004 | 1,326 | 1,712 |

RECOVERIES.

| YEAR. | Total. | Less than three mos. insane before ad- mission. | Less than six mos. insane before ad- mission. | Less than one year insane before ad- mission. |
|--|--------|---|---|---|
| 1869..... | 156 | 82 | 117 | 139 |
| 1870..... | 153 | 65 | 93 | 112 |
| 1871..... | 168 | 88 | 130 | 147 |
| 1872..... | 142 | 74 | 93 | 110 |
| 1873..... | 122 | 66 | 84 | 102 |
| 1874..... | 123 | 67 | 90 | 109 |
| Total..... | 864 | 442 | 607 | 719 |
| Ratio of recoveries for each class, per cent..... | 33.6 | 44 | 45.8 | 42 |

The statistics of another asylum furnish the following percentages:

DURATION OF INSANITY.

| | 3 mos. and under. | 6 mos. and under. | 1 year and under. |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Recoveries..... | 46.23 per ct. | 40.56 | 35 per cent. |

Since preparing these tables the last report of the Board of State Charities of Massachusetts has come to hand, from which the following is extracted: "Those sanguine expectations once prevalent of curing three-fourths, even nine-tenths of the patients who submit to treatment in the early stages of their insanity no longer prevail at our State hospitals."

Dr. Eastman of the Worcester Hospital thus remarks: "These careful investigations lead to the conclusion, that of the whole number of cases of insanity less than one-half are really cured, many of which relapse, and it is extremely doubtful if under the most propitious circumstances any possibility exists of increasing the proportion of recoveries much above 50 per cent."

Dr. Earle in his report of the Northampton Hospital, gives statistics which lead to a like inference, and in a communication to the chairman of the board expresses a doubt whether more than 40 per cent of the insane permanently recover, even when treated at the outset of their disease.

SOME STATISTICS OF BRITISH ASYLUMS FOR THE INSANE.

Of 15 asylums visited, and of which I have also reports, a table was prepared, of which the following is a summary:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Total number of patients..... | 9,786 |
| Total number of annual admissions..... | 3,381 |
| Ratio of admissions to average number resident..... | 34.5 per cent. |
| Percentage of patients employed..... | 68. per cent. |
| Percentage of recoveries on admissions..... | 39.6 per cent. |

The ratio of admissions to average number resident, in the above table, shows approximately the proportion of recent cases. The percentage of recent cases, in so far as they are hospital cases, is to be borne in mind in any fair comparison between British institutions and our own, in the matter of labor.

An examination of the statistics of the foreign asylums, however shows that the proportion of recent cases does not materially influence the percentage of employment. In the institutions where the chronic cases predominate, old age, paralysis, and general infirmity, diminish the aggregate capacity for labor of the inmates. On the other hand,

where recent cases predominate, the inability is the result of maniacal excitement or melancholia dependent upon cerebral irritation.

In forty English county asylums, containing in the aggregate 30,000 patients, the percentage of patients employed was over fifty-eight per cent. In seventeen Scotch asylums of the same grade, with 4,611 patients, the percentage of patients employed was more than sixty-two per cent.

COST OF MAINTENANCE.

In thirteen lunatic hospitals, containing some 2,000 pay-cases of the well-to-do classes, the average weekly cost was \$7.42 (reduced to U. S. currency). These institutions correspond with a class of asylums in the United States like Bloomingdale, the Retreat at Hartford, Conn., the McLean Asylum at Charlestown, S. C.

Some of them have large endowments, as in the case of Bethlem Hospital, in which case more or less of the patients are supported gratuitously.

In the English county asylums which, in their mode of support and in their general scope, correspond with our State asylums, the average weekly cost of maintenance, including clothing, is less than three dollars; in similar asylums in Scotland and Ireland, considerably less.

In comparing the cost of maintenance in the British institutions, with those of the same grade in the United States, several facts are to be borne in mind.

The salaries of officers are about the same in either case. The wages of attendants and servants are nearly seventy per cent. higher in the United States than in England. The staple articles of provisions cost much less in America. Looking at the bills of British asylums, I see that beef costs 24 cents per pound, mutton 20 cents, pork 17 cents. Of course, flour and grain are higher. Fuel is about the same.

One source of expense in American asylums, is the supposed necessity for the free use of stimulants and the extra diet required. In an institution, containing 600 patients, where pains had been taken to record the number of extra meals it is stated that over 17,000 were furnished in a single year. The question of employment of the insane has some relation even to this source of expense, if we may accept the opinion of Dr. Rutherford, of the Argyll and Bute asylum.

He thus remarks: "Insanity is, essentially, a disease of diminished vitality, and, when present, the system demands a stimulus; experience proves that there is no stimulant equal to active out-door employment and abundance of fresh air. The more this system is carried out, the plainer need be the food, and the fewer the extras required to maintain the standard of health, because the patients are brought more into the

condition, and demand rather the fare of ordinary persons, than of lunatics kept under the irritating and depressing influences of forced confinement.

Taking fifteen of the English and Scotch asylums whose reports are before me, the ratio of attendants to patients is one attendant to eleven patients. The policy which governs generally, in the construction of asylums and in the scale of care and maintenance, is well expressed in the following extract from the last report of Dr. Lalor, Medical Superintendent of the Richmond County Lunatic Asylum, Dublin:

"As a large sanitary question, the best mode of providing for the insane *in their own interest*, can, in my mind, receive a satisfactory practical solution only by dealing with it from the point of view, of obtaining the best average result on the whole, all things being fairly considered. From this point of view, the advocacy of any expensive system for the care of the insane is, I think, not judicious. For the present, at least, the desires of the most humane philanthropic and benevolent, as regards the insane, are most likely to be realized by some system which would bring all the insane of the empire under enlightened and kindly supervision, on some system capable of realization at a moderate cost. Much has been done in latter years in the three portions of the empire, in the way of providing increased asylum accommodation, and if the character of that accommodation has not been all that the advocates for individual treatment and for the highest order of internal comfort would desire; yet it should not be forgotten, that a greater number of persons have gained the advantage of a great improvement in their condition than could or would have been the case by more expensive arrangements, which, at the best, would have given higher results only to a smaller number of cases."

The proportion of insane in county poor-houses is somewhat less in Great Britain than in the United States. If the great preponderance of pauperism in the former country were taken into account, it might be said the proportion of the insane in county poor-houses is very much less.

Take, for example, Scotland, which, in point of population, is not unlike the State of New York, leaving out the cities of New York and Brooklyn. The percentage of insane in parochial asylums and in the lunatic wards of poor-houses in Scotland is 15 per cent. In the State of New York, 20 per cent.

In a late census of Scotland it is stated that very nearly one-third of the population live in houses of one room; much more than two-thirds live in houses of one or two rooms, while 82 per cent live in houses of three rooms and under.

These facts have been cited as, in some degree, a measure of the

inability of the people of Scotland to maintain insane relatives in asylums, and will serve to show their great inferiority, in that respect, to the general population of the United States. Nevertheless, it should be borne in mind that of the number of insane to be found in Scotch poor-houses and parochial asylums, very few are of a character to require positive medical or other treatment. Such cases are almost all cared for in some form of asylum specially designed for them and under competent medical supervision. And the reason why the civil authorities are enabled to make this general and adequate provision for the care of the insane at the public expense, may be gathered from the paragraph above quoted from the report of Dr. Lalor.

The provision made to meet their wants is so judiciously planned, and so economically administered, that the burden it involves is not too heavy for the shoulders of the tax payers. Palaces are not provided for a favored few of the indigent and pauper insane, and a large remainder consigned to neglect and suffering in inadequate quarters, but a comprehensive and well-adjusted system of relief is extended to all. The term palaces may, perhaps, be thought an extravagant one to apply to such institutions, till the facts are examined. But a three-storied structure, that is a quarter of a mile long and with a Mansard roof, certainly has a palatial appearance. Then look at the cost of some of these asylums. Two insane hospitals in Massachusetts are now in course of construction, the cost of which, as estimated by the Massachusetts Board of State Charities, is at the rate of \$2,500 or \$3,000 for each patient. One lately completed near Baltimore is on the same scale of expenditure.

Three are now going up in this State at a cost of \$4,000 a patient. The estimate of their cost by the State officers is still higher.

In New Jersey, a new asylum to accommodate 800 or 900 patients is nearly completed at an estimated cost of \$3,000,000; or more than \$3,000 a patient. The per capita cost in this last case would have been still more, had it not have been for an after-thought, that led to fitting up the attic story as wards for patients. Which after-thought, it may be mentioned in passing, involves the necessity of a tiresome journey up and down four flights of stairs at every time the patients in these upper wards take exercise in the open air.

Let it be remembered, in this connection, that the large majority of the patients, who are to occupy these buildings, are, physically, ailing rather than sick; that infection is not to be guarded against as in an ordinary hospital; that they need only proper custodial accommodations, which means a little more provision in the way of cubic space, heating and ventilating apparatus and special appliances, than is necessary for the health of the non-insane, and that their surroundings

should not be too much at variance with those to which they have been accustomed.

It is not intimated in any quarter that the large cost of any of the asylums, that have been referred to, is the result of any dishonest misappropriation of funds supplied for their erection, but a want of judgment in the plans adopted, local pride, professional ambition and facility of securing State appropriations will explain it all.

Extravagant outlay in construction too often involves a corresponding increase in the current expenses of the establishment.

At the three State Lunatic Hospitals of New York, now containing 911 patients, the average weekly cost of maintenance is more than six dollars.

If such weekly cost were reduced to four dollars — and the weekly cost of maintenance at the three Massachusetts institutions of a similar grade is less than four dollars; and, at the Willard Asylum for Chronic Insane, in this State, but a little more than three dollars — 450 more insane persons could receive adequate care and treatment without additional expense to the tax payer.

Had we a Board of Lunacy, as in England, would not the public mind be awakened to this fact? And would not the effort be made to reduce the scale of expenditure in our hospitals to that of corresponding institutions in other States?

CONDITION OF THE INSANE POOR IN BRITISH POOR-HOUSES.

I cannot speak advisedly of the condition of the insane in the poor-houses of England or Ireland. In Scotland, in part owing to the general employment of the patients, their treatment, accommodations and fare are manifestly quite creditable to the parochial authorities. Of the 20 institutions of this kind all were spoken favorably of in the last report of the Scotch Commissioners of Lunacy. A few extracts from their sixteenth report will show the character of the parochial provision:

Abbey Parochial Asylum — Ninety-one Patients.

"The airing-court for females has, to some extent, been laid out in flower-beds, with a very satisfactory result, but there is still room for improvement in this direction. The new glass-house is now in working order, and it is hoped that the wards will in future be plentifully supplied with plants in flower.

"Bowling continues to be a favorite amusement, and matches between the asylum club and the clubs of the district are often played, the patients being not unfrequently the winners. Readings, lectures, concerts, balls, etc., have gone on as usual.

"All this is undoubtedly beneficial to the patients and makes them more easily, and, therefore, more cheaply managed. Nine of the patients attend church in town, nine are on a parole in the grounds, and eight beyond the grounds.

"The house was, as usual, scrupulously clean and in excellent order, and everywhere presented a comfortable and home-like aspect."

At the lunatic wards of the Buchan Poor-house, 23 patients. It is noted that "the wards were in excellent order, and the patients were neatly and comfortably clothed. More than one-half of them are industrially employed. Twice or thrice a week they take exercise beyond the grounds. At the time of the Commissioners' visit half a dozen of the female patients were playing a game of croquet. No patient sleeps on a straw bed.

Lunatic Wards of Cunningham Poor-house—Sixty-four Patients.

"The wards were clean and well ventilated, and their general aspect was cheerful and pleasing. The bedding and day clothing were in good condition, and the dietary appears to be sufficient. Some wants, however, still remain to be met. Among these are house shoes for the men, a perambulator for weakly patients, and a small green-house to afford the means of floral decoration throughout the year. Considerable attention continues to be given to industrial occupation, especially in the female department (34 female patients), where, in addition to the work of the house, about 100 dozen of shirts have been made for Glasgow ware houses."

Lunatic Wards, Dumbarton Poor-house—Forty-two Inmates.

"Ten of the beds on each side of the house are now provided with hair mattresses and pillows, and it is expected that the remainder will be similarly furnished before the end of the year. The beds, dormitories and day-rooms were clean, cheerful and well kept. The whole of the patients dine in association, and 14 of each sex are industrially and profitably employed. With the profits of their work, a sewing machine and a mowing machine have lately been purchased."

Lunatic Wards, Dundee Poor-house—Ninety-six Patients.

"In many respects, the institution is highly creditable to all who are directly or indirectly concerned in its management. Yet it continues to be distinguished by the fact, that its inmates sleep on straw beds, while the inmates of all similar establishments sleep on hair mattresses. Attention is again drawn to this matter, because the great value of sound and refreshing sleep as a part of the treatment of the insane.

The beds in these wards are probably better than those, to which many of the inmates were accustomed, and that betterness is an advantage as a means of treatment. A further betterness would be a further advantage, which would be apparent in improved health, greater contentment, increased willingness to work and less resistance to control."

Lunatic Wards, Hamilton Poor-house — Thirty-five Inmates.

"About two-thirds of the female patients now sleep on hair mattresses and it is intended to furnish every bed in the same manner.

"The erection of a small green-house would be a great advantage, from which the wards might be supplied with plants in flower, *such erections are now nearly always attached to similar institutions and are found to be very useful.*"

Lunatic Wards, Buchan Poor-house — Twenty-four Patients.

"It is recorded with satisfaction, that the patients have, from time to time, a dance; it is hoped that this enjoyment will be given them with increasing frequency, and that, during the summer, it will be found possible to let them have an excursion or picnic; it should constantly be kept in view that the inmates of these wards are persons deprived of freedom against their will, and that, their insanity being incurable, they are likely to pass the rest of their existence in them. It is only an act of ordinary humanity, therefore, to afford them as many indulgences and enjoyments as possible."

The entire cost of maintenance in parochial asylums is less than \$3 a week; in lunatic wards of poor-houses, less than \$2.25 per week.

These extracts might be largely extended, but enough have been given to show that the condition of even the insane paupers, in the parochial asylums and poor-houses of Scotland, is one of relative comfort; and that the cost of their maintenance is quite reasonable; they give evidence also of the aims and the efficiency of the labors of the Scotch Board of Lunacy. Do they not also justify what was said in the body of this report; namely, "that the management of the lunatic wards of poor-houses, in Scotland, was, perhaps, the most instructive lesson for American consideration?"

DUTIES OF COMMISSIONERS OF LUNACY IN GREAT BRITAIN.

To show the scope of the functions of the Boards of Lunacy, I quote from a summary of the duties of the English Board, as given in a "Lunacy Chart," published by Dr. Lyttleton S. Forbes Winslow, adding that the Scotch and Irish Boards are of the same character.

"Duties — To grant licenses, visit and regulate asylums, report to the Lord Chancellor as to the condition of the same, and conduct and manage every thing connected with certified lunatics in England and Wales."

Licensed Houses — Every person receiving more than one patient into his house for profit, must obtain a license.

"The Lord Chancellor is empowered, at the request of the Commissioners of Lunacy, to recall or refuse to renew any license."

"The medical superintendent must be approved of by the Commissioners of Lunacy."

Stringent rules are laid down in the English law as to the admission of patients into institutions or licensed houses.

A statement of the mental and bodily condition of patients admitted must be sent to the Commissioners within a week of such admission. So, too, notice of discharge of patients must be sent to the same Board.

Notice of death of a patient must be sent to the Commissioners, to a Coroner of District, to the Registrar of deaths, and to the person who signed the order for admission of patient.

The Commissioners must be notified of the escape or recapture of a patient, with the attendant circumstances.

All licensed houses in the immediate neighborhood of London are visited by the Commissioners six times in a year. Four of these visits are made conjointly by a medical and a legal commissioner, and two single visits are made by a legal commissioner.

A very complete set of books are required to be kept at each institution, embodying all facts relating to the admission of patients, their physical and mental condition, their employment and their discharge; also, the record of every occasion for seclusion or the use of restraining apparatus, and all casualties. These registers and journals are thoroughly inspected by the Commissioners at each visit.

On such occasions of visitation every patient who so desires, has an opportunity of a private interview with the Commissioners, to make complaints of neglect or ill-treatment.

Correspondence of Patients — All letters addressed to the Commissioners of Lunacy are forwarded by the medical superintendent *unopened*. Letters written by the patients to their friends are forwarded, unless the medical superintendent disapproves. All letters *not sent* must be indorsed thus — "*Not to be sent*;" and initialed by the medical superintendent and placed before the Commissioners in Lunacy at the time of their next visit.

The system of governmental supervision and control of the insane thus outlined, has now been in operation nearly thirty years.

Supplementing, as it does, all local and subordinate boards and

agencies in the care and treatment of the insane, it has met a great public want.

The local boards referred to are ordinarily made up of gentlemen of intelligence, good judgment and social position, and yet they are so identified with the policy and management of the particular establishments with which they are connected, and at the same time so unfamiliar, perhaps, with the plans and conduct of kindred institutions that they become unconsciously its champions under any circumstances, and are not always alive to any defects in management or active in attempts to remedy them. Not uncommonly they merely reflect the opinions of the medical superintendent, whom they are supposed to control. They, in turn, therefore need supervision.

Under the wise administration of these Boards of Lunacy, the management of British asylums has been growing constantly better in every way. There has been developed an enlightened public sentiment, that has enlarged the extent and raised the standard of the public provision for the needs of the insane generally; besides inculcating more correct notions of the nature and treatment of the malady itself. Not only does such governmental supervision extend its protecting care over the insane, but it has proved an efficient shield to all connected with asylums against unjust prejudices or popular clamor.

At the outset it met with some opposition and some criticism at the hands of the medical superintendents of asylums, from an idea that its function was superfluous, and from an apprehension that its administration might be injudicious, captious or meddlesome.

This feeling has given place to a very different one. It is safe to say that now the necessity and value of such governmental supervision is almost universally conceded by those connected with institutions or licensed houses for the insane.

In the last number of the *English Journal of Medical Science*, the organ of the British Medico-Psychological Association, and edited by two of the ablest of their number, I find the following incidental tribute to the good results accomplished by these Boards of Lunacy, it is found in a review of the reports of the Commissioners of Lunacy for 1875:

"The Commissioners hammer away at the question of the night watching of the epileptics and suicidal. They have, it is clear, studied the parable of the unjust judge to some advantage. Their importunity toward the Superintendent of Asylums in regard to all the arrangements that they wish carried out, has been a great fact in the history of the Commission, and its success has always been, in the long run, complete along the whole line."

Again, speaking of the Scotch report—"We may say that we think it a document of great interest, showing great care in its compilation,

infinite pains in the manipulation of the statistics, with the view of eliciting some new fact, social or medical, and that it is highly creditable to the medical commissioners."

"They have done and are doing a good work. Certain things are necessary to the full measure of success of any such body; and we do not observe from their report, that they are in any way more deficient in those than their brethren in London. All will admit that the chief of those things are a practical acquaintance with insanity; an active sympathy with the mentally afflicted; a sympathy with the men who manage and treat the insane; with their work and their difficulties; an earnest effort to do their duty; and, above all, an inflexible sense of justice. Asylum superintendents, who think themselves ill-treated, have many ways of righting themselves; the insane, who may be wronged by the bad management of an institution, have very few."

It would seem as if a general system of supervision that works so admirably in Great Britain, might well be copied in the United States.

This would, doubtless, have been the case generally, but for the opposition that has come from the officers of American asylums for the insane. The spirit and grounds of their antagonism may be seen in the following resolutions passed at the last annual meeting of the American Association of Superintendents of Insane Asylums.

These two are selected from a dozen others to the same purport and will illustrate, perhaps, the feelings of the British superintendents of asylums, at a period, say twenty years ago, and which they have since outgrown:

"*Resolved*, That the government of our hospitals, as at present constituted, whereby a physician supposed to be eminently qualified by his professional training and his traits of character, both moral and intellectual, is invested with the immediate control of the whole establishment, while a Board of Directors, Trustees or Managers, as they are differently called in different places—men of acknowledged integrity and intelligence has the general supervision of its affairs, has been found by ample experience to furnish the best security against abuses, and the strongest incentives to constant effort and improvement."

"*Resolved*, That any supernumerary functionaries endowed with the privilege of scrutinizing the management of the hospital, even sitting in judgment on the conduct of attendants and the complaints of patients, and controlling the management, directly by the exercise of superior power, or indirectly by stringent advice, can scarcely accomplish an amount of good sufficient to compensate for the harm that is sure to follow."

ORPHAN ASYLUMS
AND OTHER
INSTITUTIONS
FOR THE
CARE OF CHILDREN.

BY
WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,
COMMISSIONER EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

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REPORT.

To the State Board of Charities :

GENTLEMEN — In compliance with the request of the Board, I submit this my report on "Orphan Asylums, Reformatories and other Institutions of the State having the care and custody of Children."

PRELIMINARY.

The history of the orphan asylums of the State, could it be fully written, would not only enlarge our faith in human nature, but strengthen our confidence in the regenerative forces of society. This, however, cannot be done; for the beautiful incidents scattered through all, like sweet-scented flowers in the woodland, are too manifold for description. The prayers for the orphan and homeless, uttered by devout men and women in the silent watches of the night; the days of pleading and plodding with weary feet; the times of dark discouragement and doubt; the monotonous round of patience-trying labor within the asylum itself; the good deeds of the benevolent whose sympathies have bestowed the widow's mite as well as the princely largess or bequest—the first perhaps costing the greater sacrifice—all this and much more can never be told, and is only fully recorded in the Book of Life.

No attempt has been made in this report to give the names of the founders, or most active workers of the asylums. Here and there, more by chance than by method, a few have been noted, and in like manner trivial incidents may have usurped the place of more important items.

It has been my aim throughout to obtain and present the views of as large a number as possible of those whose long experience in the care and reformation of children renders their opinions on the subject valuable; also, in the notes taken, to incorporate largely the language of those identified with asylums and reformatories in order the better to illustrate their workings. It would have been more satisfactory could the views of a still larger number interested in this

work, have been included, but in the limited time given this was found to be impracticable.

The attempt has been made to outline, with some care, the system of at least one of each of the different classes of institutions, in the hope that the report, taken as a whole, might give a tolerably correct idea of the manner in which this great work of benevolence is carried on throughout the State. Details, apparently tedious, have been in some instances gone into, but this has seemed unavoidable in order to accomplish satisfactorily the end in view. The whole subject has been treated upon the assumption that whatever affected the present or future well-being of even a single dependent child, was worthy of attention.

Of the institutions named in the report, numbering over one hundred and thirty, all excepting five have been visited in person. In almost every instance minute inquiries have been made, the premises carefully inspected, and, with the assistance of a competent stenographer, full notes taken upon every department.

It has been intended to include in this report mention of all the institutions of the classes treated of in the State. If any have been omitted it has been occasioned either through inadvertence, or inability to reach them in the successive order of visitation.

It is deemed but just to state that these visits have, in every case excepting one unavoidable instance, been made unexpectedly to asylum officials.

The total number of children who were inmates of the institutions enumerated in the report, at the several dates of visitation, was 17,791. Of these, 9,404 were boys, and 8,387 girls; 3,889 were orphans, and 7,610 half orphans; 3,182 had both parents living, and of 3,110, it could not be ascertained whether they had parents living or not. The number of children whose parents were natives of the United States, was 3,337, the number whose parents were natives of other countries, was 10,085. The nativity of the parents of 4,369 could not be ascertained.

The children were distributed as follows :

| | |
|--|---------------|
| In Orphan Asylums and institutions of a like character.... | 12,109 |
| In Institutions for the Blind..... | 325 |
| In Institutions for the Deaf and Dumb..... | 739 |
| In Institutions of a Reformatory character..... | 4,332 |
| In the New York State Asylum for Idiots at Syracuse..... | 196 |
| Total..... | <u>17,791</u> |

The number of children placed out by adoption, by indenture, by returning to parents or guardians, or who were otherwise discharged

during the year, will be found in many instances noted in the sketches of the several institutions visited. Owing to the failure of the managers of institutions to make complete returns in all cases, it becomes a matter of regret that the full measure of the work in this direction cannot be given in statistical form.

| | |
|---|----------------|
| The total receipts of the Orphan Asylums and other institutions having the care or reformation of children during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, approximated | \$2,976,152 00 |
| The expenditures | 2,689,500 00 |
| The total value of personal estate principally accumulated by bequests, including bonds, stocks and other investments, from which an income is derivable was, | 2,542,746 00 |
| <hr/> | |
| The amount of indebtedness upon the real estate was, | \$1,113,889 00 |
| Other indebtedness..... | 281,935 00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total..... | \$1,395,824 00 |
| <hr/> | |

It will be seen that the receipts have exceeded the expenditures by \$286,652. This mainly arises from the income of a very few institutions that are so fortunate as to have become largely endowed. The expenditures of the institutions carrying on this work for children, have generally been about equal to their receipts, and in many cases have considerably exceeded them.

Having completed the work the following thoughts suggest themselves :

LOCATION OF ASYLUMS.

It is believed that where the object of the institution will admit, a location outside of populous centers and upon lines of direct communication with cities and towns, is desirable. A district free from malaria, healthful, and having a good soil adapted to garden cultivation and the growing of fruits should be selected. A goodly-sized tract should be purchased, looking to the growth of the institution, as it has been found in many cases that more land was wanted when it could not be obtained. Good land properly tilled under asylum proprietorship has not in any instance depreciated, on the contrary in some places with the encroachments of city growth, its value has increased to a sum that at the outset would have been deemed fabulous. The Western House of Refuge at Rochester, the New York Asylum

for Idiots at Syracuse, and the Orphan Asylum Society in the city of New York, may be cited out of numerous instances of this kind. Neighborhood surroundings should be considered as well as the capabilities of the place in an æsthetic point of view, since it is believed that the influence of natural beauty is most happy upon the impressionable minds of children. A bountiful supply of good water is of paramount importance, and how it can be made to reach every department of the house should be considered.

BUILDING AND INTERIOR.

The plan of the building should be such as to give sunshine to every room in the house at sometime during the day. Courts should not be permitted, as they prevent a free circulation of air, and high parallel wings extending backward from a main building, are not desirable.

Basements, it is found, are generally objected to by superintendents and matrons. They are apt at certain seasons to be damp; are not as cheerful as upper apartments; and not so easily ventilated. It is considered better to have a good dry cellar, and begin with the first floor sufficiently above the ground to admit of the cellar being well lighted and aired. By this arrangement the heating apparatus can be placed entirely out of the way, and good storage place secured. Drain tile should be laid outside, and at the bottom, of the foundation walls, and the walls should be faced upon the outer as well as the inner side. It adds but little to the expense to make the cellar walls "rat proof" by adopting an ingenious device at the base known to builders.

Cellars.—Strong objection has been made in a number of cases, and evidently with good reason, to storing vegetables and substances liable to decay in the main part of the building. It is better to keep them in a cellar apart from the house. Spacious earth cellars are very simply constructed upon a plan adopted at the Western House of Refuge, and elsewhere.

The Laundry should be detached from the main building, or located in a wing, and should be used alone for this purpose or for work connected with it. Complaint has been made that the damp vapor from the wash tubs ascends and affects other parts of the house, and also that soiled garments awaiting the wash are liable, when packed together, to generate unhealthy gases.

Sewage.—A matter of primary moment is the sewage, with a view to the proper disposition of the refuse of the building, to neutralize its noxious character, and prevent the generation of unhealthy gases and their diffusion through the building. The highest authorities should be consulted in order to make available the light which modern science has thrown upon this subject.

Ventilation.—In erecting the walls, regard should be had to securing perfect ventilation. Many asylum officials think it important for every large apartment to have one flue that shall admit of making a small open fire. By this means the air is effectually changed and the chill or dampness taken off in bad weather. This is particularly desirable in apartments used by the sick.

Windows should be numerous, that the light may be abundant in dark weather, and also to aid in ventilation. The sashes should be suspended by means of cords, weights and pulleys.

Halls and stairways.—It is generally recommended that halls and stairway passages be wainscoted a few feet from the floor, and that stairways be so constructed that children may not fall over the balustrade, or that they shall not be hurt in case they do. In two instances it was found that children had broken their limbs by such falls. There are several devices for preventing these accidents. One is by stretching a wire rope through iron braces with loops a little above and back of the rail. Another is by a screen, or by rods, placed a few inches apart, across the openings. In some asylums children are prevented from sliding down the balustrade by inserting short thick wooden pins three-fourths of an inch long, in the rail about 15 inches apart. There should be more than one series of stairways in every asylum building to afford rapid egress in case of fire.

Infirmaries.—It has been found that those asylums are most successful in preserving health that adopt preventive measures against the spread of contagious diseases. In certain institutions noted in this report, it will be seen that the infirmary department is so separated from the rest of the building, that no communication of disease to healthy inmates is possible. Noteworthy examples of this may be found in the Orphan Home and Asylum of the Protestant Episcopal Church, New York, and in the Albany Orphan Asylum. This department is again subdivided into distinct sub-departments. A child being taken ill is at once placed in an apartment termed a quarantine. After the diagnosis of its case has been determined by the physician, it is either transferred to the regular wards for the treatment of contagious diseases, or to the general infirmary. All such apartments should have special reference to securing abundant sunlight. Beautiful models illustrating this feature may be found in the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled Children, New York, and also in the Foundling Asylum of New York city, under the charge of the Sisters of Charity.

Dining-rooms.—In a few instances it has been found that dining-room tables were furnished quite similar to those in private dwellings, chairs being used instead of wooden benches. In a large number of cases stools take the place of benches. It is believed that the nearer

the table conforms to the usages of family life the better will be the results.

Dormitories.—So many hours of a child's life are spent in sleep, that it is unnecessary to emphasize the importance of securing for it during this period, that warmth and comfort which enables nature to accomplish her most beneficial results. In regard to beds the almost universal testimony is in favor of the use of straw for this purpose, with sheets, blankets and other covering according to the season. In many cases a comfortable, or thick blanket, is laid upon the tick and under the sheets, which, no doubt, adds to the comfort of the child. This tick should contain sufficient straw to make a good, thick, elastic bed, care being taken not to pack it too tightly. In some cases a corn-husk mattress is used in addition to the straw bed. Tufted mattresses are objected to for general use, owing to the inconvenience of changing the contents as often as necessary. There is no reason why beds in these institutions should not have abundance of clean straw, frequently changed. It is cheap, and may be used afterward for bedding down stock, as is done at the Roman Catholic Protectors in Westchester county. Here, as well as in some other institutions, the beds were found to be not less than sixteen inches thick. Hair and feather pillows are both in use, the latter being most in favor.

Double bedsteads are almost universally condemned. A diversity of opinion exists as to the use of iron or wooden bedsteads. Iron is more generally used; but some in charge of asylums, who have had long experience, and who have used both wood and iron, are decided in their preference for a bedstead of hard wood. This should be well made, varnished or oiled, having a head and a foot board, particularly the latter, and side boards like the French pattern. It is claimed that in such a bedstead a liberal supply of straw can be used loosely in the tick, and without interfering with the shapely appearance of the bed. Besides, it is claimed, that a bed is more comfortable made up in a bedstead with foot and side boards than otherwise; that it can be tucked in more securely in cold weather and further, that children are not liable to fall out of it. As to the question of wooden bedsteads harboring vermin, the opinion of Sister Tatiana, of the St. Vincent Female Orphan Asylum, of Syracuse, as given in the report of her institution, is quite to the point. In some asylums iron bedsteads have been found with side bars or braces extending from head to foot. Others preferring iron bedsteads recommend a wire network at the sides, and at the head and foot, in order to conform to the French idea. Wooden spring slats are found occasionally in iron bedsteads, so constructed as to be readily lifted out and scalded when desirable. Iron bedsteads with an elastic wire bottom are highly spoken of where they have been tried. They have been long in use in

the Nursery and Child's Hospital in New York. These elastic bottoms can be used in an ordinary iron bedstead. They are very desirable for hospital service. If iron bedsteads are used, they should be sufficiently stiff to prevent sagging in the center, which renders the sleeper uncomfortable, and gives the dormitory an unsightly appearance. Bedsteads in use are found to vary from two feet four inches to two feet nine inches in width. Cribs for infants are generally found to be about twenty-seven inches wide. This is the width of those in use at the Sheltering Arms, New York. They stand higher from the floor than ordinary beds. All bedsteads for children should be of ample width.

In some instances dormitories were found to have large windows on three of their sides, high ceilings, and walls hung with pictures and mottoes. A broad strip of carpeting, sometimes of bright color, at others a rag carpet, made in the institution, is laid through the center of the room, and pretty rugs beside each bed to protect little feet when first thrust out of their cozy nests on frosty mornings. Sometimes a little stand with a drawer, having a white napkin upon the top of the stand and decorated with a few toys, prayer-book, etc., has been found beside each bed, while a comfortable varnished chair was also close at hand. All such accessories to a dormitory brighten it, and give a home-like aspect to the room. The Brooklyn School Association and Home for Destitute Children is a notable illustration of this idea. When the weather will permit, dormitory windows should be opened at top and bottom during the day, the blinds thrown apart, and the room flooded with sunshine and fresh air. In some instances sleeping rooms have been found wainscoted and ceiled with wood overhead. But these were not in favor, in consequence of their harboring vermin. A hard finish wall, painted in some soft tint, and capable of being washed, seems to be generally preferred.

Bathing and Wash-rooms for the children should be ample in size and well lighted. The utility, if not the necessity, of having the children wash in running water to prevent inoculation from sore eyes, is generally conceded. The best institutions have almost uniformly adopted this plan. The most popular method is to carry the water along the wall above a sink in a pipe, pierced with small round holes at short intervals. Another way is to place in the center of the room a large circular vat about three feet deep, the bottom set a little below, or upon the floor; if the latter, having a bench about eight inches high around its outer circumference. In the inside of the vat, close to the rim, the water pipe is carried, pierced at convenient spaces. The water in this pipe is tempered by a connection with a hot-water pipe. This arrangement admits of the double use of washing the face in running water and of taking a full bath in the vat when desirable. In

some of the asylums, built under the direction of, and managed by the Roman Catholic Sisterhoods, the bath tubs for small children are elevated sufficiently from the floor to admit of the Sisters standing beside them and performing the ablution of the children with less fatigue. This is one of the many interesting features of the St. Vincent Orphan Asylum, Albany. In some asylums the water is admitted to the bath under a lip, according to the French plan, there being no faucets or projections to injure the person. In a large number of the institutions visited, each child had its own towel, with its name or number, or both, upon it, hung on a hook, the hooks being marked to correspond. In some cases each child had likewise a hair brush, a fine and coarse comb, and a tooth brush. Sometimes these were kept in a little drawer, at other times in a little bag hung upon a hook by the towel. This practice would seem to be commendable as serving to inculcate habits of order as well as cleanliness.

School Rooms, if furnished upon the principles now recommended by the various municipal boards of education, will generally be found to embrace all needed requisites. There cannot be too much space allotted to blackboards, and if the floor room will permit, single seats and desks should be used. They are preferable, especially for older pupils, for obvious reasons.

DIET.

It is believed, and the conviction is based upon the experience of those connected with asylums, that a generous diet is essential not only so far as the health of the children is concerned, but that in the end it is true economy. When the diet is not generous, the blood becomes impoverished, the tone of the system is lowered, and when an epidemic assails the little flock, it carries away a far greater number of victims.

The importance of building up strong constitutions in children that they may more readily become self-supporting and productive members of society, is so evident, that every thing having relation to their health is worthy of careful attention. Mrs. Dubois, of the Nursery and Child's Hospital, New York, sensibly remarks upon this point: "Real economy is to give these waifs of humanity a good nourishing diet to form bone and muscle, which can be made available to the country that nourishes them."

DRESS.

In a large number of asylums it has been found that great pains has been taken by those in charge to preserve and enforce a high standard of personal cleanliness, which cannot be too highly commended. Under-clothing is frequently changed; the heads of the little ones are, at stated days of the week, combed with a fine-tooth comb; the daily

ablutions are thorough; and the weekly bath is given under competent supervision. The children's hands and faces were generally found to be clean, in some instances the faces shining with that peculiar brightness, the result of affectionate care, and the hair of the little girls tastefully done up and secured with combs or bright ribbons. It has been a common custom to dress asylum children uniformly, but this is fast being set aside. The feeling is very strong against it in some quarters. The president of the New York Catholic Protectory at Westchester says that he never "buys two pieces of goods alike." Some object to the custom of dressing children uniformly, as will be seen from the notes of visitation, on the ground that it destroys individuality of character, and weakens independence and self-reliance; others regard it as unkind so to mark a child that when it goes upon the street other children may point it out as a charity subject. Some asylums allow children to select material and make up garments for themselves in anticipation of their leaving the institution, and upon leaving furnish them with a trunk and quite an outfit of clothing. The generous provision in this respect made by the Sisters of Mercy in Brooklyn is especially worthy of note. In Watertown also, as we entered the Jefferson County Orphan Asylum, we noticed a little girl who was just leaving with her adopted parents. She was very nicely and comfortably dressed, and had quite an outfit of clothing and toys furnished by the institution, connected with all of which there were, doubtless, pleasant associations. There is something so expressive of genuine sympathy toward a homeless child in such provision for its future comfort and pleasure on the part of asylum managers as to warm the heart toward them and their noble work. By allowing a child to exercise its preferences in regard to dress in some degree, the opportunity comes in to teach it to dress discreetly and in good taste, while making the most of limited means.

SECULAR AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING.

A very few asylums have adopted the plan of sending their children to the public schools in the vicinity, the schools being of an excellent character, and the class of children attending them being somewhat higher, socially at least, than the asylum children. Where this plan had been adopted it is found to work quite satisfactorily, and there is no disposition to return to the old practice. Among those in charge of asylums where it has not been tried, there is, however, a wide difference of opinion upon the subject. Some are as strongly opposed to the plan as those who have tried it are in favor of it, believing that association with school children would render the work of discipline more difficult, and teach their children additional bad habits. Others maintain that contact with outside children "brightens them up."

and prepares them for coping successfully with the great world, which sooner or later they will be obliged to meet; also, that the asylum should be regarded as the temporary home for the child, and while holding this relation to it, should, as far as possible, exercise the same functions as the parent, imparting to it religious instruction, feeding, clothing and caring for it in sickness; but that the child is more benefited in receiving its secular instruction along with other children at the public schools. It has seemed that in asylums where the children were brought into contact with those from outside, and were instructed with them in the same class rooms, as is sometimes the custom where parochial schools are taught on the premises, they appeared more animated and cheerful than in asylums where they were entirely kept by themselves. This may have been a fancy, but the opinion is, nevertheless, ventured.

While it is believed that all of the asylums having the charge of children aim to impart a thorough knowledge of reading, writing, spelling and arithmetic, some, as will be seen by the notes of visitation, very wisely do not allow this to take the place of industrial training, and so devote about half the time usually set apart for study to this important branch of asylum work. The girls are taught to sew and do general housework, and the boys are drilled in gardening and such occupations as are suited to their years, although of little or no pecuniary advantage to the institution. The classes are changed so that those working in the forenoon will be in school in the afternoon.

It must be admitted that children in asylums and reformatories belong largely to a class whose parents have not been given to habits of industry, and that in order to elevate the children they must have inculcated thorough industrial habits, and be trained to persistency in accomplishing their stated tasks. Such a discipline makes the boy methodical, self-reliant and independent. What is said upon this subject in the report by those who have given it much attention will be found of interest.

RELIGIOUS AND MORAL TRAINING.

In these homes for children religious and moral teaching, it is believed, is conscientiously inculcated by those having them in charge. This is gratifying in view of the fact that this class of children having no other homes but the asylum, must look to it for that religious training which it is the duty of the parent to give to his children. This is the more important, inasmuch as the building up of all true character must rest on a religious basis. Unless the child learns its obligations to the Deity to begin with, and is taught the importance of living an upright life, it can hardly be expected to become a good citizen. Enlargement upon a point so universally conceded would seem to be superfluous.

EMPLOYMENT OF DOMESTICS.

Too much care cannot be exercised in the selection of all persons that are brought in any way into association with the children. They should not be employed because the wages are within the limits of a fixed rule of economy, but with reference to the influence they are likely to exert upon the children. None but persons of good character, fixed religious principles, and those naturally fond of children, should be engaged about an asylum, for although they may not be, strictly speaking, the companions or instructors of the children, still, from the fact that they come in contact with them from day to day, they become so to a greater or less degree.

In a few institutions it was found that in furtherance of a mistaken economy, mothers having children were employed as domestics. They were willing to work for low wages for the privilege of having their children cheaply boarded in the house. The general testimony, it will be found, is strongly against this practice. Among the reasons urged against it is that, in spite of all precautions, partiality on every possible opportunity is shown by the mother toward her own.

VOLUNTARY SERVICE.

The greater the amount of voluntary service that can be secured in the management of an asylum, the more perfect it would naturally seem must be its work, as that which is done for "our dear Lord's sake," is more likely to be better done than from any other motive. It has been found that even in institutions under the immediate charge of persons receiving fixed salaries, the remuneration in many instances was only a partial compensation, the services being rendered mainly for the love of the peculiar work; also, that a very large amount of gratuitous service was most generally rendered by gentlemen and ladies holding official positions or otherwise interested in the charity, some giving up a great portion of their time to the institution in various necessary services. In a large number of institutions it has been found that a great number of men and women, especially the latter, eminent for their piety, have been found who had given up their lives to the work, in many cases having left homes of luxury and the society of the cultured and refined. The association of such persons with children must have a most salutary effect in the formation of their characters.

Beautiful illustrations of this kind of work are to be found in some of the asylums under the management of Sisterhoods in the Roman Catholic, Episcopal and Lutheran churches, where the personal influence of highly refined and cultivated ladies of pure lives and strong religious faith is brought to bear upon every child. These institutions are arranged so that each Sister has charge of a separate depart-

ment, the sewing room, dormitory, kitchen, laundry, lavatory, school, etc., each forming one, while over the whole establishment one Sister presides, who is recognized as the head. By this means perfect order and system is maintained in every part of the house. A considerable number of institutions have no paid servants whatever, and a large number have but very few, the work being all done by those in charge, with the assistance of the boys or girls about them. It has been found that members of the medical profession, in accordance with a fundamental principle of charity recognized by the faculty, have rendered valuable gratuitous service to these organizations. Whether this voluntary service in behalf of unfortunate children be rendered within the asylum or outside of it, whether it be given for but a single hour, a day, a month, or for stated periods, as in the Lutheran and in some of the Episcopal Sisterhoods, where ladies pledge their whole time for one or more years to this peculiar work, renewing their pledge at their option, or whether it be a life work, as in the Roman Catholic sisterhoods, these sacrifices are deserving the grateful recognition of all men.

PLACING CHILDREN IN FAMILIES.

It has been found that the percentage of children in the orphan asylums of the State, October 1, 1875, who were orphans and at the disposal of asylum managers, was about twenty-seven, while the percentage of those who were either half orphans or had both parents living, and who in a great majority of cases had not been surrendered to the asylums, was seventy-three. The last-named are composed largely of two classes: First, those who belong to respectable families, temporarily broken up by sickness, death or financial embarrassment, and who find a shelter in the asylum till the family can be again reunited. Second, children of unworthy or degraded parents, who are admitted with a view to elevate them and shape their lives to better ends. The number who were actually at the disposal of asylum managers and whom they have power to place in families by adoption, indenture or otherwise is comparatively small. In view of the fact that unworthy parents have the power to withdraw their children at any time and replace them in unhappy associations, the work on the part of the asylum managers is a discouraging one so far as it relates to such; but it is persevered in, and the child retained as long as practicable with a view to perfecting its character, and doing it the utmost good possible. The question suggests itself, however, whether there is not a tendency in some asylums to keep orphan children and those who have been surrendered to them longer than is necessary under their fostering care. The asylum being regarded as but a temporary home, and the establishment of these children in family relations its ultimate aim, should

they not, in all cases where practicable, be put into such relations as soon as possible, care being taken in the selection of homes to see that the benefits of previous religious training be not lost? Attachments, it is believed, are apt to grow up between those having charge of children and the children themselves, and separations are reluctantly made. In the meantime children are waiting for admittance and others are so accessible, that with a little effort they might be brought under its salutary influence, if the children already in the asylum, who are well prepared to go into families, should be put there under an energetic placing-out system. When this is done, the asylum may be regarded as a beautiful instrumentality for rescuing children from homelessness and reinstating them under happy auspices in that divinely ordained institution — the family.

The vast number of neglected and destitute children, that sorely need the helping hand of disinterested benevolence, seem to require that all agencies working for their elevation should be active in their efforts to reach this ultimate aim. The grand results that have been attained by the Children's Aid Society and the American Female Guardian Society of New York in the removing of children from evil associations and placing them in good homes are notable examples of what may be done in this field of labor.

Those having charge of asylums are unanimous in affirming the great importance of finding proper homes for children. Applications are generally denied unless the managers are fully satisfied by personal visitation or otherwise of the disposition and ability of the applicant to train and educate the child in a fitting manner. It may be questioned, however, whether children after being placed in homes are looked after and followed up with as kind solicitude as is necessary for their welfare. "Out of sight out of mind," is an adage, perhaps not inapplicable here. There is no doubt but that periodical inquiries after a child, and, where practicable, visitations of an unobtrusive character at stated periods, would enhance the feeling of responsibility in its guardian, and increase the efforts of the child to be thought worthy of such attention. If difficulty should arise between the guardian and the child, the counsel of a third party having some interest in the matter might prevent wrong-doing on the one side or the other.

The general testimony appears to be that those children turn out the best who have been placed in farmers' families. The reason of this is obvious. The child sits at the farmer's table, and becomes at once a member of the family. If a girl, she is not humbled to the position of a mere drudge for others, or made to feel that she belongs to an inferior caste from which she can never hope to rise, but she is set to assist the farmer's wife in the various domestic duties, is permitted to use her needle in the family circle, and to go to town or attend church

with other members of the family. If a boy, he works beside the farmer in the fields, accompanies him to town, and assists him in all his varied concerns. Labor from which he was accustomed to revolt, now becomes to him honorable; men holding the respect of the community he sees are engaged in sturdy toil. Finding himself identified with this class, he strives to make himself a fit associate, and be like those about him. The influence upon him from such surroundings cannot be otherwise than elevating. From the farmer he is constantly learning something to his advantage, both from his successes and his reverses, the latter as valuable to the boy as though the loss was sustained by himself. Whether in the fields, at the market, or in the house, the boy is still learning, and he is taught lessons on economy, on the preservation of property, and on carefulness in bargaining, which must be of great value to him in after-life. To children on a farm is frequently given a pet in the shape of a domestic animal, the responsibility for the care of which has an educating effect. On a farm exigencies are continually arising, sometimes trivial, at other times taxing to the utmost the ingenuity and skill of the farmer and those about him; it may be the breaking down of a loaded wagon, the repairing of a plow, the putting in of a pane of glass, or jobs of domestic carpentering. Even the training of a colt is not without its salutary effect. His judgment is matured, he becomes expert, self-reliant, discreet and cool in times of danger. Daily exercise in the open air brings him a good appetite, sound sleep, and as a consequence, a more even and cheerful disposition, besides greater muscular development and hardihood. Granted these advantages of country life always under good, moral and religious influences, and we may fairly hope that he will develop into a useful and respectable citizen.

ASYLUM CAPACITIES.

The location of some orphan asylums should be changed, others need to have new buildings constructed, or the old remodeled. Many are not only in debt, but are daily embarrassed to meet current expenditures. It is not improbable that if these difficulties were removed, the accommodations now afforded by the orphan asylums already organized with an energetic system of finding homes for the children, would be sufficient to meet the present wants of the class in whose interests they are established. There are many asylums that have been compelled to contract their work, and decline to receive large numbers of children, sending them back to their degraded homes where their course is inevitably downward. It would seem to be for the interest of the public to come to the rescue of these institutions and sustain them, if for no other than politic considerations. The history of numerous asylums in the State shows that, after a long

period of financial struggle, bequests have accumulated creating handsome endowments, by means of which they have become at length entirely self-supporting, and enabled to relieve the public of a large share of its burden.

REFORMATORIES.

Visitations made to all the juvenile reformatories of the State, give rise to many reflections. It will not be attempted in this report to deal with a subject so extended, nevertheless a few hints are offered. While it is evident that those having charge of this work are accomplishing great results through these institutions that stand as bulwarks against the flood of crime which would, but for them, overflow the land, it is apparent that the principle, at least, upon which some of them are conducted, might be improved. The important results growing out of the work of reforming juvenile delinquents in Germany, within the past quarter of a century, are so great when compared with those achieved in our own country, that they should lead us to scrutinize our systems more closely. It is believed that the gloomy and prison-like character with which some of these institutions are invested, should be set aside. The grated windows of the prison seen from afar, as the boy approaches the reformatory, the high walls of gray stone that surmount it, the formidable gate-way at the entrance, through which, as he passes, he hears behind him the clash of bar and bolt, falling upon his ears like the sentence of an irrevocable doom, the passage onward through massive doors that swing heavily as they close behind him, till he finds himself at length in his little room, closed with a grated door and fastened with a massive bar and lock, in what seems to him a felon's cell, must powerfully affect the vivid imagination of the young, no matter how hardened he may be, and tend to break down pride of character and self-respect. The boy under such circumstances must feel that the world has turned its back upon him; that he has lost all; that every man's hand is against him, and that henceforth his hand must be against every man. The shock once over, and the mind of the boy accustomed to the terrible ordeal, what dread has Auburn or Sing Sing for him? It is believed that a large proportion of the boys committed to reformatories do not require these forbidding restraints, and that some different and milder treatment combining in some way the family system should be adopted for a large class of juvenile delinquents now being sent to the houses of refuge. If under this method they be still found incorrigible, they might then be transferred to a more secure place and be put under stricter discipline. It is thought, however, that if the experiment was once tried very few would need to be so transferred. In some institutions it was observed that the heads of departments or principal employes ate at the same time, and in the same refectory as

the boys. If this idea, foreshadowing the family system, were carried out in all our reformatories and carried out still further so that those in charge might sit at the same table with the boys, placing themselves in full sympathy with them, joining in their conversations and gaining their confidences, more satisfactory results, it would seem, might be accomplished. This idea has evidently suggested itself to the minds of the Christian Brothers, as we found in asylums under their care that they ate in the same dining-room with the boys and at the same time, though at separate tables. Holding intimate relations with the boys, there is an opportunity to inculcate by the potent force of example many little points of decorum which, though often overlooked, have much to do with the formation of character. The aim of the reformatory should be, not to punish, but to help. If this is correct, that mighty power — the love of God to man, and of man to his fellow — should pervade the whole juvenile reformatory system as it does that of the family; the sentiment, "I am better than thou" should never be felt.

The conviction soon forces itself upon the casual student of juvenile delinquency, that society must extend at once its efforts to preventive measures to arrest crime or suffer deplorably in consequence. It cannot afford to neglect or allow to grow up in ignorance and vice, a class which should be objects of its most sacred care.

In a recent report made to the legislature of Pennsylvania by the Board of Public Charities, the following language is made use of, which is deemed appropriate here: "Vice and misery are not limited to the adult classes who fill our prisons and alms-houses; if they were, the certainty of their extirpation would be but a matter of time. But behind these poor wretches range their children, line after line, from youth to infancy, 'the serried ranks of woe,' with the sign of their heritage of want and guilt upon their faces, pressing forward to take their turn in the prisoners' dock, the poor-house, or the jail cell. To busy ourselves alone with mature and developed crime, and to ignore the breeding mass of embryo vice beneath, from which it is steadily supplied, is to attempt to dam the river at its mouth when it has grown into an irresistible torrent, which, but for a trifling effort, would have 'dried up at the fountain.'"

There can be no doubt but that juvenile crime is on the increase, not only in our own State but elsewhere. The superintendent of the House of Correction, Chicago, has had committed to his keeping during the past year the extraordinary number of 1,335 criminals under twenty-one years of age, being about thirty per cent of the entire number imprisoned. His experience with this class renders his opinions worthy of note. In his report just issued the following language occurs in relation to juvenile crime: "The causes which pro-

duce criminals are not checked; juvenile depravity and crime seem on the increase; the idle and vicious youth of our cities are becoming more numerous; the adult lawbreaker more expert and less fearful of the consequences of crime; and the efforts of police authorities to control the dens of the wicked and their habitués, are more easily thwarted than they formerly were. Alms-houses are receptacles for babes who grow up in atmospheres containing only poisonous influences, and prisons are useful only as places for temporary detention, and the surroundings of the homes of thousands of our youth can only generate immorality, and immorality can only lead onward to a criminal life."

It would seem that all legitimate measures in the way of prevention should be exercised against this increase of crime.

If the parent is not able to maintain the child and it comes upon the public for support, the public should see that it has at once the best possible advantages, and that it is placed under wholesome and regenerating influences. As bearing upon this point, the president of the last State convention of the Superintendents of the Poor of this State expressed the following views:

"The idea of placing children under influences that shall prevent them leading that life of pauperism and crime, to which their parents were addicted, is a most important consideration. The project will no doubt meet with great opposition from the community in which they reside. They will think it hard to separate the mother from the child. It is hard; but in cases where the parents have become demoralized, it is not only right, but it is the duty of the overseer to take the children away from such parents, and to place them where they shall receive proper instruction. The children have no chance of ever making themselves self-supporting or of being a credit to society, and the only way they can be saved and brought to lead lives of usefulness is by taking them away from their debased parents. Instead of being a hardship, it is really a benefit to the children, as well as to the parent. We should consider it our duty to separate such families as would, if left together, become an injury to society."

As showing, also, the importance that is attached to giving dependent and neglected children the best possible advantages, we quote the following from the last report of the Board of State Charities of Massachusetts:

"These children ought to know the influence of good homes. Their moral and spiritual natures ought to be encouraged to growth. They deserve something better than the alms-house can give them, a fairer chance to make of themselves worthy and respectable men and women. What individuals can do for them, what the State can do for them, should be done with thankful alacrity, to the end that vice and crime may be decreased; to the end that pauperism and its weighty burdens

may be reduced; to the end that these little ones may have such an opportunity for life here and hereafter, as is the right of every human being."

The Superintendent of the New York House of Refuge maintains that, if parents allow their children to grow up in ignorance of legal, moral and religious obligations, and they become depredators upon society, and are sent to a reformatory, the parents, if they are able, should be obliged to pay for their maintenance while there.

On this point the Board of State Commissioners of Michigan, in their report for 1874-5, recommend "that some provision be made by which parents who are abundantly able to do so may be required to pay for the maintenance of their children while kept therein (in the reformatory) * * * that quite a number of persons 'well-to-do' have had sons in the establishment, clothed, boarded and schooled, for a considerable time wholly at the expense of the State."

In carrying on the work of juvenile reformation, it is believed, that an examination of the cottage system as practiced in the Ohio Reform School might lead to modifications in our own system of reform.

The legislation of last winter, relating to pauper and destitute children in poor-houses, recognized the principle of disassociating children from the adult pauper class. The same principle in relation to criminals had been previously adopted, it being illegal to commit children to penitentiaries and prisons, and yet it is believed that in almost all the penitentiaries in the State a considerable number of persons under sixteen years of age will be found. In jails and lock-ups children are also brought into association with criminals, and it is believed great evils have grown out of the practice. In the last very suggestive report of the Prison Association of New York will be found many interesting facts bearing on this subject. During the visitation to Hart's Island, made in October last, boys — mere children — were observed emerging from the hold of the steamer as it lay at the pier, in company with a gang of sixty criminals. It was sad to see this desecration of childhood by such ignoble associations. Public sentiment alone, without any legal enactment, should be sufficient to remedy this evil. At all events there can be no question but that the law should be so rigidly enforced as to bring about an absolute separation of children from adult criminals.

At the congress of the various State Boards of Charities, held last May in Detroit, after a full and interesting discussion bearing directly upon this subject, the following resolution was passed by that body.

"Resolved, That this conference recommend that the various State Boards of Charities use their influence to bring about such legislation in their respective States, as shall cause dependent children to be re-

moved from county poor-houses, city alms-houses and common jails, and from all association with adult paupers and criminals, and placed in families, asylums, reformatories or other appropriate institutions."

There has already been much accomplished through a growing intelligence among the people in the way of separating youth from evil associations and surroundings. By the wise action of the legislature last winter just referred to, sustained by the hearty co-operation of the benevolent, there has been removed during the past year from the poor-houses and alms-houses of this State over 1,000 children, and these have been placed in families or asylums, and thus brought under good influences and Christian teachings. So great and intelligent a reform in view of its tremendous consequences, may well be regarded as a cause for congratulation by a whole people.

It seems quite fitting that this important act of the people, which emancipates such an army of little children from the degrading bondage of poor-house life, should be inaugurated upon the first day of the year commemorating the centennial birth of our national liberty.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOLS.

Distinct from asylums and reformatories is another class of benevolent agencies known as day homes or industrial schools, of which those under the patronage of the American Female Guardian Society, and the Children's Aid Society of New York city, may be cited as prominent. These institutions come to the rescue of families liable to break down through death or sickness of one of the heads, or from other causes. In some cases it was found that the father had either died or deserted the mother. This humane provision was made available to such of these mothers as strove against becoming a public burden. The homes relieved them of their families during the day, and thus enabled them to go out to work. The children are taught such things as are in keeping with their age and sex. They acquire habits of cleanliness, and receive an industrial and moral training. In some instances *kinder-gartens* were found in connection with these institutions, which were well conducted. It is believed that the influence which they exert does not stop with the child, but is carried home with it to the parent.

Another class who are the beneficiaries of these institutions are the children of the very poor, who, owing to their ragged and dirty condition, the irregularity of their attendance, or other causes, do not find their way to public schools. They are received in these schools, washed and clothed, fed and helped along till they are able to seek after a better life. Many of these are prepared for attendance upon the public school, which is one of the aims of these organizations.

It is evident that the beneficial results to society that have grown out of the self-sacrificing work in this direction of a large number of persons, mostly benevolent ladies, is very great, and their labors are worthy of high commendation. A few illustrations of the workings of these industrial schools and day homes are given in the notes of visitation.

A very commendable feature of this work is that of teaching useful trades to young girls, many of whom have been brought up in a shiftless manner, without any knowledge of housekeeping or of any industry whatever. Pleasant rooms, with sewing machines and other facilities for working, are provided, where they may freely come and be taught under competent instructors. In this way numbers of young women are rendered independent and self-supporting, who, but for these agencies, might fall into evil ways.

Differing from these is yet another class of institutions under the charge of Roman Catholic Sisterhoods, generally designated industrial homes, where girls needing industrial training and those too old to remain any longer in asylums, are received, watched over, and kept under a certain degree of restraint until their characters have become fully formed. Meanwhile they are taught useful trades, such as dress-making, tailoring, etc., which enables them on leaving the institution to earn for themselves a comfortable livelihood. These industrial homes also receive and board at unremunerative rates young girls who are working in shops and stores, and who, without any homes of their own, are exposed to many dangers. Illustrations of the workings of these institutions, which, it is believed, are accomplishing much good, may be found in St. Joseph's Industrial School, New York, St. Joseph's Industrial School, Albany, and the Rochester Home of Industry.

CUSTODIAL CARE OF IDIOTS.

The need of further provision for the care of idiots has become imperative. The New York State Asylum for Idiots at Syracuse provides for the education of a limited number of teachable idiots. But as this institution was established solely for educational purposes, it does not provide a permanent home or asylum, and therefore does not meet all the requirements. It contains at this time a large number of those who have received all the benefits the institution can confer. They have been educated to the extent of their capabilities, and trained to habits of industry. Those who would have been little better than dumb animals in their neglected condition in the poor-houses, under competent supervision, are now capable of contributing in a great measure to their own support. Having elevated them to this point, it seems unwise to return them to the poor-house, or cast them adrift upon the country. The consequence in either case would be

burdensome and hurtful to society. A considerable number of these are females who have attained to womanhood, and who, while fully developed physically, have not sufficient intelligence to protect their persons against the unprincipled of the opposite sex. Numbers of the idiotic and feeble-minded class may now be seen in the poor-houses of the State. Some are about to become mothers of illegitimate children, and these, while promising to be prolific, will never bear any other than illegitimate, and, probably, defective offspring. Some of them are quite young persons. The poor-house system is such that the consequences alluded to are almost inevitable while they remain its inmates, and still more certain if they are turned adrift. In fact, the poor-house is their general asylum, not only during the period of childbirth, but also while nursing their children. The only shelter open to them now is the poor-house. The question presents itself to all thoughtful minds, is this the provision which, from an economic, not to say a humanitarian standpoint, ought to be made for this class?

From the system in operation in older countries for the care of idiots, it has been ascertained that it is possible not only to have institutions providing all reasonable comforts, but which shall at the same time be largely sustained out of the earnings of the inmates; in other words, this class of dependents can be made producers.

The need of further provision by the State for idiots is fully appreciated by those whose relations to this class of persons render them familiar with their wants. At the last State Convention of the Superintendents of the Poor the following resolution was adopted.

"Resolved, That in our opinion, the accommodations provided by the State for the care of idiots are inadequate to present and prospective needs, and that the interests of humanity would be promoted by effecting a classification between the teachable and unteachable classes, and that we recommend our committee on legislation, conjointly with the State Board of Charities, to bring this subject to the attention of the legislature."

If those of the class referred to who have already received the benefits of the institution at Syracuse, and who are now held there for humane reasons, could be provided for in a custodial institution such as we have mentioned, their place might be supplied by those who are awaiting admittance.

FAMILY LIFE.

While the present condition of society renders the existence of public asylums for orphan and destitute children necessary, the opinion is ventured that the true home for the child is the family, and that the ultimate aim of all asylum work should be to establish the child in family relations as soon as possible, and further, that the nearer the

asylum system can, in its workings, be made approximate to the family system, the more satisfactory will be the results. In smaller asylums this ideal can be more nearly approached, and in some of these, it was found to be almost reached. In a few, the superintendent and his wife were found assuming the office of father and mother, while the older boys and girls were the elder brothers and sisters of the younger children. All ate at the same table, partook of the same food, the children dressing as comfortably as the heads of the establishment. The employes of the house were selected with special reference to their fitness as associates for children, and the evenings were spent in amusements and devotions, as a family would spend theirs. In those asylums where the Sisters work with the children, and are their constant companions, thus naturally assuming the relation of mothers, where they are the repositories of their confidences and their sympathizers in little trials, the family idea is outlined.

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING.

It is believed that the domestic departments of an asylum must be under the charge of females to be satisfactory. Good housekeeping cannot be maintained without them, and while the presence of the sex refines and subdues the ruder natures of the boys, the effect upon them of good housekeeping is elevating, to say the least. The lad who grows up without it, loses much. Its good effects, even in reformatories, may be seen in Father Hines' institution at Buffalo, where the Sisters of St. Joseph making their home in the St. Joseph's Asylum, upon the opposite side of the street from St. John's Protectory, pass over and assume charge of its domestic affairs in the morning, returning at night. In this way, perfect housekeeping is maintained, and that sweetness and home-like charm which only attends the presence of woman, is secured.

OUT-DOOR EMPLOYMENT.

In a few asylums it has been found that the custom prevails of permitting the children to have little flower-beds of their own, which they cultivate during the summer. The children are furnished with seeds in the spring, which they plant. They are instructed how to water and care for the flowers, and preserve the seeds which they yield. Some of these garden plats were quite unique, and will be found described in this report. In other instances the boys are allowed to have little patches of ground in the garden, and are permitted to plant and grow vegetables. A spirit of emulation often attends the work. This employment, so far, at least, as it relates to flowers, not only cultivates a love of the beautiful, but inculcates habits of regularity, and ideas of order and perseverance.

NOTES ON INSTITUTIONS VISITED.

The following sketches or notes on institutions visited are arranged alphabetically, both as to locality and as to the institutions in each city or town.

ALBANY ORPHAN ASYLUM—"THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF ORPHAN AND DESTITUTE CHILDREN IN THE CITY OF ALBANY."

Albany.

This organization, generally known as the Albany Orphan Asylum, was incorporated by special act of the Legislature March 30, 1831. The asylum building is situated on Western avenue, corner of Robin street. It overlooks the city park, and is surrounded by patriarchal trees. The lawn is neatly trimmed and intersected with cleanly-kept graveled walks. The grounds present to the eye, on entering them, the appearance of a home of wealth and taste.

The building, which is situated upon a tract containing four and a half acres, is of brick, three stories high above the basement. It is heated by stoves, lighted with gas, and supplied with water from the city. All the rain water is saved, filtered and distributed through the house from tanks in the attic, and is used for drinking and domestic purposes. The bathing facilities are ample. The ceilings are high, and the ventilation is in part effected by wall flues.

The financial affairs of the institution are controlled by a board of eleven managers. At the date of visitation, September 9, it was under the immediate superintendence of Rev. Timothy Fuller, who had held the position for the past ten years, and who had also had much previous experience in the care of children. He is assisted by his son, acting as clerk and steward, and by his wife and daughter, the latter assuming a large share of the responsibility of the domestic affairs. The educational department is under the charge of a lady of experience and culture, aided by a female assistant. The superintendent employs a gardener, two cooks, a laundress, and two seamstresses.

In answer to inquiries, the following information was furnished regarding the institution: "Destitute children of both sexes, without distinction, are received between the ages of three and twelve years, occasionally at two and a half years old. The average age when admit-

ted is about seven years. A large number of the children we have now were sent here by the Overseers of the Poor. They come in a very destitute condition, showing previous neglect. Some of them are partially supported by parents or friends. They generally pay from one dollar to one dollar and a half per week toward their maintenance and care. For the children sent by the Overseers of the Poor the Board of Supervisors contribute a dollar and a half per week toward the support of each."

The routine of the day, etc., is given as follows: "The children rise at six o'clock. Chapel services take place at half-past six, conducted by the superintendent. Breakfast is had at seven o'clock. After breakfast the chamber-work is done, the children assisting. At half-past eight the bell rings to prepare for school, which commences at nine o'clock. The hour for dinner is twelve, after which the children play until half-past one o'clock, when school commences, and is kept until half-past three. Supper is served at half-past five o'clock, and the children retire at eight in summer, and at half-past seven in winter. Religious exercises are held before retiring.

"On Sunday the children attend the different Protestant churches in the city upon invitations. Sabbath-school is held in the assembly room of the asylum at three o'clock.

"The larger boys aid in the garden during the summer, and the girls are taught to sew and to help in general housework."

In regard to discipline the superintendent says: "With most children nothing more is required beyond depriving them of play. Sometimes we tell a boy to stand aside and put his hands up to his face. Other boys are different. They have been so brought up that something else is required. I deal with them according to my best judgment. In the case of most children we never have had to resort to severe measures. In exceptional cases only we have recourse to corporal punishment."

Regarding the time spent in the institution, and methods of disposing of the children, the superintendent says: "Children stay here a longer or shorter period, according to circumstances; sometimes three or four years; sometimes but a year. The law does not allow their being bound out until they are eight years old. We place them out by adoption, however, whenever an opportunity offers. The children of soldiers stay longer. We have now perhaps six or eight of this class.

"Girls are bound out to remain until they are eighteen. It is stipulated that they shall have a good common-school education, shall be instructed in housekeeping, and shall attend church and Sabbath-school. They are allowed to be taken a month on trial. Parties applying must bring references that are entirely satisfactory as to

their ability, character, etc. Farmers taking boys are required to give them a common-school education, instruct them in farming, send them to church and Sabbath-school, and at the age of twenty-one give them two suits of clothes and \$100 in money. If at the age of eighteen they prefer to learn a trade, they forfeit the \$100.

"Persons taking children are required to report to us every six months. We have a great many applications for children. We always have a large number of applicants' names in advance upon our books. When a child is ready to go out we select from among those who have applied the very best place for the child. I say to the person who comes as an applicant, 'we cannot let you have a child simply because you want one; if we are convinced that you can furnish a good home for the child we will let you have one.' A great many of our children turn out well. Some have turned out badly, but such are mostly those who have gone back to their friends. One or two of our boys have graduated from a medical college. A gentleman from Schoharie county who called here for a boy said that one of our lads had become one of the most prosperous men in that county."

Mr. Fuller says in a note received since the visitation: "Since you were here several children have gone to homes where we know they will be well cared for. One, a bright little girl, has been adopted by a wealthy gentleman residing in one of the western cities, who takes her as his own, having no children, and will give her every advantage, as well as a good Christian home. This little girl is a very encouraging case, as but a few months since from the character of her surroundings her prospects were of the very darkest. I have just learned that two of our girls who were taken by parties living in — have recently married 'well-to-do' farmers living in the neighborhood of their adopted homes. I have lately met several young men who were once inmates of the asylum. One is doing an extensive business for a leading railroad company. Another holds a position of trust in a large business house in —, and another is doing a good business in dry-goods in one of the eastern cities. It is very encouraging to meet with such of these as I do frequently, who refer to the time when they had no home but the asylum, and express their gratitude for the care and attention there given them.

"It is customary for such children as can do so, to return here at Christmas time, sometimes spending a few days in visiting, upon which occasion a Christmas tree is provided and presents distributed. This occasion is counted on long before."

It is not known how many children have received the benefits of this institution since its beginning, but the number is large. The number received during the five years from 1870 to 1874 inclusive was 312.

The number of inmates at date of visitation was in excess of convenient accommodations. It was stated that the passage of the law last winter, requiring children to be removed from poor-houses, had created an increased demand upon the institution. The board of managers, composed of energetic men, had asserted, however, with commendable spirit, that "as it had been truly said of the past, that no destitute child had ever been turned away from the doors of the asylum, so it should be declared of the future that none should be refused admittance." Plans were at once prepared for an additional building to be erected in the rear of the asylum, increasing its accommodations from 120 to 200 inmates. At the time of our visit the foundation of this addition was laid, and since then the building has been fully completed.

The boys in the school-room were dressed uniformly in gray cloth pants and linen jackets. Their hair was cut close. The girls were all dressed alike and wore aprons with sleeves. The hair of each was nicely arranged with combs or ribbons. The children were bright in appearance, their manner orderly, and they displayed a spirit of emulation in the school. As we entered the large class-room, the children were singing "Sparkle, sparkle, water pure." As the moral of the rhyme was to inculcate personal cleanliness, they seemed particularly happy in realizing that they were clean themselves.

The teacher said: "Last winter I had a class that could work every example in the higher arithmetic, while some made a good deal of proficiency in grammar, United States history, etc. Children sometimes come here ten and eleven years old, who do not know their letters." It was stated that no aid was received from the Board of Education in sustaining the school.

In the assembly room was a juvenile library of about 200 volumes. In one of the rooms of the house was a large closet completely filled with children's toys.

Miss Fuller says: "We try to inculcate in the children a love of order, and the principle of preserving property. This is a difficult task. All the children are numbered, and their clothes are numbered the same, for which they are held responsible. The clothes are marked to denote whether they are to be used in the school-room, play-room, or elsewhere. We have a thorough system of discipline, and follow it up day by day. We find that if we make a rule, we must adhere to it."

The children marched in to dinner before we left the house. The following grace was said at table, by the children: "For these refreshments and every mercy, O God, we bless and praise Thy holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." The children had for dinner, corned beef, potatoes, green sweet corn, and each a roasted apple. It was stated that pears were sometimes substituted for apples, and

that the children have cake for supper twice a week. Syrup is sometimes substituted for butter at this meal. The family partake of their meals at the same hour as the children, in an apartment opening into the dining-room of the latter.

The asylum has separate play-rooms for the boys and girls, each communicating with play yards. The yards are of good size, and near the center of one stands a great tree, the branches of which seemed to stretch protectingly over the children. The central portion of the yard is covered with fine gravel, which was raked very smooth. This yard is inclosed with a board fence. Around its outer limit is a border of rich soil, and this was spaced off into little flower beds. These were filled with flowers; some were fenced with palings about six inches high, made of shingles split and pointed. Several of these little gardens had arbors made of light stuff, over which grew a profusion of morning glories. In the bowers were toy houses and toy garden implements. These little gardens were kept with surprising neatness, and we were assured that no serious differences occurred as to boundary rights. The children were taught to save the seeds that grew in these gardens, and put them in little bags for the next year. Miss Fuller thinks that this employment of the little ones cultivates good taste, industrious habits, method in employment of time, and forethought. The play-ground also contained croquet wickets, a little swing and a long shed for shelter in inclement weather.

Regarding the care of the sick, the matron says: "When a child is first taken sick we take it away from the other children, and place it in a room or quarantine by itself, where it is under our immediate care. It is kept here until the physician has determined the nature of its disease, and it is then transferred to a ward or apartment distinct from the common infirmary if contagious. By this method contagious diseases are checked from spreading at the outset." There were no sick children at time of visitation. It was stated that only two had died in the asylum during the past six or seven years.

The dormitories were furnished with double wooden bedsteads. The boys sleep two in a bed. Straw beds and straw bolsters and feather pillows were in use. The straw, it was stated, is changed twice a year, at which time the ticks are washed. A grown person sleeps in each dormitory with the children.

The clothes rooms and dressing rooms were well filled with clothing, which was very tastefully made up. The boys' Sunday suits were cut by a tailor, and thus made to fit them well. They were also given many little things which boys take pride in wearing, such as neckties and paper collars, and the more meritorious boys have white shirts with plaited bosoms to wear when they go to church.

In addition to dresses for every day wear, both in winter and sum-

mer, the girls have two other full suits, one for church and one "for out doors." In winter they wear an extra woolen balmoral, and the delicate ones are provided with knit underwear. All the hosiery is made from the same material, the girls assisting in the work. Their dresses were generally attractive in color, especially those for church and holiday wear. The hats were trimmed with pretty ribbons and flowers, and corresponded with their dresses. Most if not all of the girls are supplied with such little accessories to dress as ribbons, gloves, fans and parasols. All the children are furnished with handkerchiefs. They take care of their own clothing.

The girls were allowed to indulge their love for dress to some extent, which Miss Fuller stated she endeavored to temper to their condition in life. She thought in gratifying children in this way when young, and giving them at the same time good advice, their tastes could be educated, and they were less likely to indulge in an excess of finery when first becoming possessed of a little money of their own. Besides, she thinks that dressing the children in well-fitting clothes, and about as well as the children in the middle station of life are dressed, gives them self-respect.

Children on leaving are furnished with one extra complete and nicely-fitting suit, different from those worn in the asylum. That of the boys is made of all-woolen beaver cloth.

In the sewing-room were three sewing-machines. Two women are constantly employed here in doing the lighter sewing of the asylum, the heavier work being sent out of the house.

The children are never left alone. An interesting feature about the asylum was found to be that of a care-taker, in the person of a kindly-disposed elderly gentleman, who is engaged in this duty mainly through love of the children. The evidence of his kindly interest is seen in his face and manner. He watches over them when engaged in their sports, mingling with them in full sympathy with all the simple joys and trials. The superintendent says: "We have learned, after twenty years' experience, that there are many things that must be done in an institution like this that cannot be performed by servants."

About two acres of ground are under cultivation. The superintendent says: "We raise vegetables of all kinds, including potatoes, cabbages, onions, parsnips, tomatoes, squashes, green corn, etc. We have just stored in the cellar one hundred and twenty barrels of potatoes, raised upon less than an acre of land. In addition to vegetables we cultivate raspberries and strawberries, which partially supply the children's wants. Formerly the fruit was sold, but all of it is now used in the institution. We grow a few pears, as well as a good many apples, plums and cherries."

Three cows are kept on the place.

The water-closets are detached from the main building. The drainage was said to be good. The laundry is in a separate building, under which is a large cellar used for storing potatoes and other vegetables. Each bath-room contains three bathing-tubs.

At the date of October 1st there were one hundred and sixty-one boys and girls in the asylum, all from the city of Albany. Forty-five were orphans, one hundred were half-orphans, and sixteen had both parents living. Twenty-one were of native, and one hundred and forty were of foreign parents. Twenty-six were partially supported by parents or friends, one hundred and ten partially by the county, and twenty-five wholly by the institution. The number of children received during the past year was ninety-three; the number discharged, eighty-one. Of the latter nine were indentured, sixty-eight returned to parents or guardians, and one placed out by adoption.

The invested funds of the society amount to \$79,963.20; its expenditures during the past year were \$17,003.69; of which \$1,049.48 was for buildings and improvements, and \$3,500 for investment.

The asylum appeared to be doing its work thoroughly, and possesses a home-like character. It is in the immediate charge of a Christian family seemingly of peculiar adaptation to the work, whose various members have each some one of its departments to administer.

Besides the benevolent persons engaged in this work at the present day, and those who in its early history made generous sacrifices for the establishment of the institution, whose names are recorded elsewhere, there are two deserving of special mention here, which occur in the following scrap of history that has been furnished us:

In the spring of 1829 a lady imbued with strong religious feelings, was suffering from illness in the city of Albany. After becoming convalescent her friends came to read to her, and among them a young lady named Miss Eliza Wilcox, a school teacher. Among the books selected for reading was the Memoir of Ann H. Judson. As the two friends read and listened, their spirits were stirred with a desire to labor in the Master's cause, and the question was asked what can we do? Miss Wilcox decided to go to India and engage in missionary work there, and offered her services to this end to the American Baptist Mission to Burmah. They were declined, as none but married ladies at that time were permitted to enter upon the work. Meanwhile the warm heart and active brain of the invalid, whose name was Mrs. Orissa Healy, were devising work in another sphere. Looking upon her own little family of four children, she thought, what will become of them if I am taken away, and turning her thought to others already thus bereft, she said to her friend, "Why should we desire to cross the ocean for mission work while there is plenty around us at our own door?" And in that sick chamber was first conceived the

idea of opening a home for orphan and destitute children in Albany. On her recovery she submitted her plans to others, which being approved, a small cottage in the suburbs was rented for the purpose of opening the asylum, a benevolent deacon of the church becoming responsible for the rent.

In the meantime Mrs. Healy's friend had been to New York and visited asylums there for the purpose of acquiring a knowledge of their management. She gave up her school upon her return, and these two ladies entered upon their work. Some simple articles of furniture were supplied, and the day following the opening of the house for children one boy was received — not a very promising subject; the next day a little girl came in. For a week or more these constituted the entire household. In the following April seventy orphan and destitute children had been received into the house. At this period several charitable citizens of Albany joined in an enterprise to secure for the work a property known as Gallup's Hotel. This was used about three years before the present site was secured. During this time these worthy ladies modestly toiled on, one as matron and the other as teacher, for four years without salary or reward of any kind except such as came in the form of blessings from those ready to perish. After Mrs. Healy had established the asylum upon a permanent basis, she removed to Buffalo, where she spent some twelve years in similar philanthropic work. The Albany Orphan Asylum having become somewhat deteriorated in 1845, her services were secured, and she held the position of matron until 1853, when she resigned and removed to New York. This noble lady is since deceased, but the asylum she founded still prospers in its good work, yet her more enduring monument may be seen in the characters she formed.

THE CHILDREN'S FRIEND SOCIETY.

Albany.

The objects of this association are "to gather into schools, vagrant children, who, from the poverty or vice of their parents, are unable to attend the public schools, and such as gain their livelihood by begging or pilfering; to give them ideas of moral and religious duty, to instruct them in the elements of learning, and in the different branches of industry, and thus enable them to obtain an honest and honorable support, and to become useful and respectable members of society. The ages of such children must be within the following limits, viz.: the girls, from four to sixteen; the boys, from four to seven."

Like most charitable work, this was begun by the efforts of a few

ladies, to lift from degradation neglected children. A school was opened in Rensselaer street on the first of December, 1856, and the work was there begun. The aspect of things at this early beginning is thus referred to: "Those present, on that piercing winter's morning, can never forget the appearance of those wretched little objects, shivering in their rags, covered with filth, repulsive in looks, and barbarous in manners. Some remember very distinctly the heart-sickening feelings of despair, that irresistibly welled up as they vainly attempted by kindness and persuasion to tame the half-civilized little beings that gathered around them. Some can recall the hopeless, helpless look of one of the ladies, as she said: 'It is utterly vain and useless to attempt the reformation of such creatures.'"

The accommodations in Rensselaer street being found inconvenient, a building on Ferry street was procured and occupied on the 5th of January, 1857. Here again difficulties on the score of proximity to the river, and liability to suffer from the rise of the water presented themselves, and it was deemed necessary to make another change to 48 Philip street, and here the society worked during 1857. The report of what was accomplished that year, despite of financial embarrassments, is thus stated: "The whole number received into the school, during the year, has been 491. The average daily attendance upon the school, 63. The number of meals given, 16,443. The number of pairs of shoes distributed, 197. The number of garments distributed, 435. These, under the direction of the ladies, have all been made by the children. In this connection, we would ask if, setting aside the intellectual and moral advantages, there is any other way equally cheap, pleasant and convenient, by which an equal amount of physical comfort can be bestowed? Nearly 17,000 days of warmth, quiet, order and neatness, and the same number of substantial and abundant meals for poor little neglected suffering children; children who, but for this institution, would have spent just so many days of filth, negligence and exposure to every temptation and absolute want. Nor must we omit to mention another means of doing good through the instrumentality of the school. Twenty-nine girls from 10 to 16 years of age, have been provided with situations as servants in respectable families, and two have been received as permanent members of kind, Christian households."

Still growing, and every change being an advance on the previous one, the society, in May, 1858, removed to a house at 81 Hamilton street, which was purchased and offered to the managers at a rent within their means by a benevolent citizen of Albany.

A good bath-room and other conveniences were fitted up in this building, adding to the health and comfort of the inmates.

It is asserted quite truthfully by the ladies engaged in this work,

that "there can be no greater charity than to rescue from their abodes of poverty and misery, those poor children whose only heritage is suffering and crime; to withdraw them day after day from the pernicious influences by which they are surrounded; to warm, clothe, and feed the body, to instruct and enlighten the mind; to touch the heart, to point and lead the soul heavenward; to prepare them for a happy and useful life; to fit them for an eternity of blessedness."

In the winter of 1861, the society obtained a grant from the legislature of \$1,500, and in 1863, the house on Hamilton street was purchased for \$3,500.

The work of the society still continued to prosper, and in January, 1868, another school was opened at 16 Canal street. This building is the property of a gentleman deeply interested in the work, who prepared it for the use of the society, and has generously allowed it to be occupied free of rent.

The society was incorporated February 4, 1860. Its affairs are controlled by a board of lady managers. The immediate charge of its domestic concerns and of the schools are committed to matrons and teachers.

The daily routine of the two schools is stated to be as follows: "The pupils in the principal department are required to study and recite every morning in each of the following branches, spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic and geography. At 12 o'clock the scholars are quietly dismissed to the dining-room, where they receive a good substantial dinner, and are then at liberty to play until 1 o'clock. In the afternoon the girls are assembled in one room, and instructed in that very essential branch for women, needle-work, while the boys have slate and black-board exercises in arithmetic and writing. After a short recess, at 3 o'clock, they are all assembled together and are instructed in catechism, singing, blackboard exercises and arithmetic, or have some other profitable exercise. For good conduct and correct recitations the scholars receive marks, a certain number of which entitles a child to receive a garment, so that after attending the school for some time the children are comfortably clad. Two of the older girls are chosen each week to assist the matron in cleaning the house and preparing the meals, and are thus taught housework in a most thorough manner."

It appears from the report of the Secretary, Miss Russell, that, during the year preceding the last annual report of the society, the total number of children under instruction in the two industrial schools was 323; average attendance, 105; scholars left to enter service, 18; garments made by the children and distributed among them, 269.

The report of the treasurer, Miss Agnes Pruyn, shows that during the year preceding, October 1, 1875, the total expenditures were \$2,670.60. The society has an invested fund of \$3,400.

The house on Hamilton street is a goodly-sized brick dwelling. It was found at the time of visitation to be in a neatly kept condition. It contains the usual accessories which such an institution is supposed to require, including bath-room, dining-room and school-room. The latter embraces two departments, connected by folding doors, and is furnished with piano, little benches, blackboards, etc. A portrait of Mrs. Samuel Pruyn, the worthy founder of the school, gives increased interest to the room.

CHILD'S HOSPITAL.

Albany.

Among the numerous deserving charities that adorn the city of Albany, the Child's Hospital is so unpretentious that but for the odor of its sweet charity, like the arbutus blossoms hid away among the leaves in the forest, it would be passed by unnoticed.

The hospital is under the charge of Miss Alice Lea, a lady whose work is purely a labor of love, her services being, we were informed, entirely voluntary. An experienced nurse, an assistant, and a cook, are the only employes of the establishment.

Children of all denominations and of both sexes are received. No charge is made for the benefits conferred, the medical attendance, board and lodging being free.

A visitation was made on the 11th of September, at which time the neatness and bright loving atmosphere in which the sufferers were found awakened grateful sentiments toward those engaged in this noble work. The ages of the children appeared to range between nine months and ten years. The beds on which they lay were of the simple iron pattern, each having two mattresses—the under one of straw, the upper one of hair. In some cases a rubber sheet was used over the mattresses. The wards were so full of toys and pictures, and the children seemed so absorbed in them as to have forgotten their sufferings. Some of the cases were quite interesting. One was a little boy from Cohoes, a bright, intelligent child of about five years. He was suffering with a paralyzed leg. His parents belong to the working class. In the girls' ward was a little German girl, seven years old, also suffering from paralysis. She had never walked. The reason assigned was the lack of proper food in the wretched home from which she came. Through careful nursing and nutritious diet she had so far recovered as to be able to put on her clothes. Two little girls were suffering with hip disease; one could go on crutches; the other was lying in bed, supported by a frame under her pillow, and playing with a box of block toys. A distressing case was that of a little girl who was suffering from

a kick inflicted by her inhuman step-father. For years her knee had been bent across her stomach. She was comfortably supported in bed, and was engaged in playing with toys, her limb being adjusted by a cord and pulley contrivance at the foot of the bed. Hopes were entertained of restoring the limb to its normal position. A number of the inmates, we learned, had been injured by lack of food. "Two little boys," the nurse declared, "were so weak when they came that they were unable to sit up in the daytime." We found these playing in the woodshed. A little baby, nine months old, it was said, had been fed excessively with morphine by its depraved mother. "The child was," says the nurse, "the most deplorable object I ever saw. Now she is doing nicely. She gets good beef tea, and bread and milk. She was looked upon as a hopeless case when she came here. Her lower limbs were almost paralyzed."

The upper floor of the house contains the boys' ward, the girls' ward, and the nursery ward, with nurses' room adjoining. On the first floor are the reception room, a spare ward, and the operating room.

Three little boys were in a shed at work with tools, and practicing at carpentering. The youngest, six years old, had an injury of the spine; his brother had a withered leg. Many other cases awakening sympathy were encountered, all of whom were the subjects of tender Christian care. The nurse remarked "that cheerfulness and good food does more for children than doctors and medicine."

Some of the children in the hospitals seemed to have more than ordinary intelligence, and in view of this fact, and that of the utter neglect which they must experience if left at home, and the worse than neglect if left in a poor-house, the existence of such an asylum for their care as the Child's Hospital must be a cause of gratification. It is a charity that must commend itself to the public, and its sphere of usefulness should not be limited for want of liberal support.

THE HOUSE OF SHELTER.

Albany.

This institution was organized March 9, 1868, and incorporated January 4, 1869. It was at first located at 49 Hudson street. Subsequently it occupied a building 56 Howard street. December 30, 1872, it removed to the new building which it at present occupies, corner of Wendell and Howard streets. Although not coming strictly within the scope of this report, it is included in view of the work that it has accomplished in rescuing children from courses of infamy. Within

the past two years about twenty girls under sixteen years of age have received the benefits of its Christian ministrations.

In regard to its origin it is stated that, for some two years previous, several ladies of the city were impressed with the necessity for such a shelter, and were burdened with its responsibility, until through their earnest and prayerful endeavors, a house was secured and the work begun.

The views by which its founders were governed are stated to be as follows: They believed that "Most humanitarian and benevolent enterprises originate in Christianity: that they are the exponent of Christian love and zeal; that little has ever been accomplished to elevate our race save by the influences of Christ's religion, and the direct or reflex power of the Cross. The establishment of this home for the fallen is regarded as the fruit of a consecration to Christ and His work." In regard to these the managers say, they "have been for long periods members of our sheltered family, most of them born under the shadow of a great woe and a greater wrong. In their helplessness and unconsciousness of their defrauded inheritance, they have appealed very touchingly to our sympathy and watchful care."

The new house of shelter contains twenty-one sleeping rooms, two matron's rooms, two sick rooms, two bath rooms, a large work-room, a laundry, a kitchen, a dining-room and two parlors. This building, with the lot upon which it stands, cost \$20,000.

The chief industrial feature of the institution is a laundry in successful operation on the premises.

From the last annual report of the society the following statistics are given in relation to the work of the two preceding years:

| | |
|--|----|
| Number admitted for the first time..... | 84 |
| Re-admitted | 10 |
| Sent to situations in good families..... | 27 |
| At boarding school..... | 1 |
| Married..... | 4 |
| Returned to parents..... | 8 |
| Sent to alms-house hospital | 1 |
| Sent to the house of refuge | 2 |
| Given over to the justice of police | 2 |
| Gone back to their former lives, or lost to our knowledge of them, | 27 |

Present number of inmates in the Shelter:

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Adults..... | 20 |
| Infants | 5 |

The total expenditures of the society during the year ending October 1, 1875, were \$3,300.

The financial affairs of the Shelter are controlled by a board of gentlemen, managers, and an associate board of ladies direct its internal workings.

It is believed that this eminently Christian work is efficiently carried on, and with good results.

ORPHAN HOME OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

Albany.

This is an institution for girls largely supported by St. Peter's Church. Its affairs are administered by a board of lady managers, of which the rector of St. Peter's Church is the president. The asylum is located at No. 1 Pine street, and is under the immediate charge of Mrs. Harriet C. Shanxby, matron. One female assistant is employed. The premises occupied by the Home are owned by the trustees of the Albany Juvenile Retreat, who have given the use of the building for this charitable purpose.

Children are received from three to eight years of age. There were twenty inmates on the day of visitation — September 11th — eight orphans and twelve half-orphans, all except one supported by the asylum. The number of children received during the year was thirteen. The number discharged was nine. Four were returned to parents or guardians and two were placed out to service.

The matron says: "We would rather take full orphans than simply destitute children, but circumstances determine this. When a mother comes whose husband has deserted her and brings her children to us, in such case we take the children. We have a committee charged with the receiving of children. The applications are referred to this committee, and they decide who are to be received. The managers intend hereafter to keep the girls longer, and not put them out so young as they have been doing. Girls going away and coming back again bring with them a great deal that is not good for the Home. It is intended to keep the children until the age of fourteen, and then put them in the families of members of the Protestant Episcopal Church."

Several of the Home girls, the matron says, "are now living in the families of prominent citizens in the city. One has lived six years in a minister's family. They go out mostly as servants, having been previously trained to fill such positions."

The school hours are from ten to half-past twelve. "We teach," the matron says, "all kinds of housework. We change the girls' work every week. We teach the children cooking, but we cannot expect to make them first-class cooks. We bake our own bread."

In regard to discipline the matron remarks: "I am very strict, but I do not punish unless it is necessary. I make the children do their work without any trouble, because they obey me from love."

The house is heated by furnace, lighted with gas and supplied with city water. It was formerly a private mansion, and seems to be tolerably well adapted for its present use. It is arranged as follows: The basement contains kitchen and dining-room, the first floor reception-room and play-room; the second floor matron's room, nursery and bath-room, and the third floor dormitories, etc.

The dining-room was furnished with benches, tables and a little table with baby chairs. The matron dines with the little ones, eating the same food. This was a most gratifying feature of the house, and no doubt accounts for the ease with which discipline is maintained. The school-room is small. The children looked neat and clean, and their clothes were in good repair. The ladies' committee, we were informed, make their garments. One death, and that from whooping-cough, had occurred during the year.

The school on the premises hitherto has been taught in turn by young ladies of the congregation of St. Peter's Church. The managers are now intending to hire a teacher.

The dormitories were furnished with single iron bedsteads and straw beds. The bath-room contained little bags for brushes and combs, one for each girl. The house seemed to be well managed, and the influences to which the children were subjected appeared to be highly beneficial. It is to be regretted that the benefactions of the Home cannot be extended to a larger number. It appears from the last report of the managers that several applications during the year have been denied for want of room. The report of the treasurer, Mrs. John Taylor, shows that the society has no invested funds. Its total expenditures during the past year were \$1,270.15.

THE ST. VINCENT'S ORPHAN ASYLUM SOCIETY IN THE CITY OF ALBANY.

Albany.

This society was incorporated by special act of the Legislature, chapter 152, Laws of 1849. Under its auspices the following institutions are conducted: St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, 106 Elm street; St. Joseph's Industrial School, 261 North Pearl street; St. Vincent's Male Orphan Asylum, Western avenue.

ST. VINCENT'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Albany.

This institution is located at 106 Elm street, on an elevated site, with pleasant surroundings. The building stands about one hundred feet from the street, and the sloping lawn of green turf is tastefully laid out, with well-kept graveled walks. From the upper windows an extended view is obtained of the beautiful valley of the Hudson.

The building is two stories high, with basement and mansard roof in addition. The main edifice, which is of brick, was formerly a spacious and elegant private residence. To this a large wing has been added in a corresponding style of architecture.

The institution is under the immediate charge of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity, Sister Valentine being the Superior, with seven Sisters to assist her in the work.

This orphan asylum was opened in 1845, in the three-story brick building situated on North Pearl, near Lumber street. It was then intended to accommodate about sixty children.

Sister Lucy Ignatius Guiron, and three other Sisters of Charity, from St. Joseph's House, Emmitsburgh, Maryland, took charge of the institution. After the cholera of 1854 the number of orphans increased so rapidly that it became necessary to build an addition, which was completed in 1855. Since that time about one hundred and twelve orphans have been annually cared for in the institution.

In 1865 the house on Pearl street was taken for an industrial school, and the small children were moved to the large building on the corner of North Ferry street and Broadway, where they remained till 1869, when they took possession of their present home on Elm street.

From the commencement till 1860 the asylum was exclusively supported by voluntary contributions, fairs, and by semi-annual collections of the several parish churches. In 1860 the Board of Supervisors began to allow something toward the support of the children sent from the alms-house, since which time annual appropriations have been made toward the support of such children as become public dependents; at the present time, the sum fixed for such is \$6 per month each.

At date of visitation, September 10th, there were one hundred and twenty-nine inmates.

The Sister, in expressing her disapproval of putting children out from asylums at too early an age, said: "Too much seems to be expected of them. We know that they have a great many faults, and that we must bear with them. But the people of the world have so many troubles and cares of their own, that they do not have sufficient patience with them. With my experience, and I have been for the last forty years engaged in this work, having spent ten years here, I find that even in good families there is this same difficulty.

"I am most grateful to God for enabling us to establish our Industrial School. We certainly have saved a great many by this means. Our practice is to keep the girls until they are fourteen, and then send them to the Industrial School to learn sewing, where they remain till they are eighteen or twenty years old. I think the Industrial School is the making of them. A girl needs a mother's care more after twelve years of age than at any other time."

The girls are taught to be saving and economical while in the institution, and this has a good effect on them after leaving. In reference to this the Sister remarks: "Many of our girls after they leave bring us their money to save for them. I put it in the bank in their own name. One of our girls has now over \$1,000 in the bank. I say to the girls when they are going away: 'Now mind, look out for a rainy day. The time may come when you will be sick.' A fondness for dress and a desire to be out at night seems to amount almost to a mania among young girls, and I fear will be the ruin of many of them."

The Sister emphasized the importance of the children remaining long enough in the asylum to receive its benefits. She says: "We think it a great charity to take these little children, who have been, as it were, abandoned, and endeavor to make them useful members of society. But if they do not remain long enough to acquire religious principles and to receive the benefits of the moral and industrial training which we give, their short stay does them little good."

The Sister spoke strongly against the influence of factory life on young girls: "So many different kinds of young people come together in factories, and the conversation there indulged in is so very unprofitable, that I think they are bad places for young girls. In such occupations they lose all that feeling of delicacy a young girl ought to have."

In order to exhibit the working of this excellent institution the daily routine is given, as follows:

"The children rise at half-past five in the summer and at six o'clock in the winter. They then wash themselves, comb their hair and gather in the play-room for morning prayers. Breakfast is served about six o'clock in summer and an hour later in winter. After breakfast, housework is in order. The bedsteads are brushed by the larger girls, assisted by the Sisters, while the smaller girls do the sweeping. About seven o'clock the bell rings for all to go to the play-room to have their heads fine-combed. This is done by three of the Sisters, and that none may be overlooked, a little girl stands by and checks off the name of each child from her list as the work is performed. The same system of checking off is practiced in bathing. This combing takes place every day of the week except Sunday. At half-past eight the school-

bell rings; the children go to the dressing-room and change their aprons, thence to the school, where they remain till twelve o'clock, at which time there is a recess. Dinner is served at twelve, after which all the older girls are engaged in the kitchen and refectory for a short time. After this, until two, their time is given to recreation. A sewing class is taught from two till five, followed by half an hour's recreation. At half-past five, supper, after which recreation till half-past seven, the hour for night prayers. The children then retire for the night."

In regard to industries the Sister says: "We not only teach sewing in classes, but also teach the larger children to knit. They take a great pride in bringing me stockings which they knit during their hours of recreation. Every child who knits four pairs gets three new pairs the next winter."

The holidays, namely of Christmas and the Feast of the Holy Innocents are observed. On the former occasion, the Sister says: "We have a beautiful Christmas tree. The friends of the institution send in nice presents for the little ones, and we bring out our good things including peaches that have been preserved during the summer."

In the large play-room was a library of about a hundred volumes of juvenile reading matter. Also a glass case containing a great many dolls, and toys, said to be a source of great amusement to the little ones.

The school-room occupied by the children was found to be very pleasant, and was well lighted. The children appeared tidy and clean and dressed uniformly. They receive a plain education. Some specimens of very creditable writing was shown us. The school is sustained without aid from the city school funds.

The clothes rooms were fitted up with drawers and shelves, which were filled with warm, woolen clothing. Each child has two Sunday suits and two every-day suits, also one for midwinter of all wool, green and blue Scotch plaid. A full set of bright plaid cloaks, lined and wadded, is provided for all the girls old enough to go out. The Sister says: "All who take extra care of their dresses get new ones the following year." Their summer bonnets, of pink chambray, were very pretty, as were also their neat, white sun-bonnets. In one of the clothes rooms was a closet, designated as an apron press, containing seven sets of aprons for each child. The same room contained a stocking press. Each child has three pairs of winter stockings. A considerable number of garden hoods were shown us, which, we were informed, had been made by the children out of scraps of muslin. All the garments are made in the house, mostly by the children. They are also taught to fold and put away their own clothes. This is done with great care, as all the folds are of precisely the same width. The

clothes rooms were a marvel of order and neatness, and with the large stock of comfortable clothing were suggestive of substantial comfort.

A place is set apart for the shoes of the little ones. They are kept in cases full of pigeon holes. Each hole or box is numbered to correspond with the number and name of the child, and contained a pair of shoes. Each child has two pairs, one for every-day wear and a better pair for Sundays. The Sister says: "The children never bring clothing of any value here. Sometimes we are obliged to burn up every thing that they have on them when they come."

Single iron bedsteads, with straw beds, were found to be in use in the neatly kept dormitories. In regard to beds the Sister says: "We like straw beds the best, because we can change them when desired, which we regularly do every spring and fall. I like the iron bedsteads, because they take up less room and are cleaner." Each dormitory contains a white-curtained bed, and the larger ones two, which are occupied at night by the Sisters. In one of the larger dormitories is a large press for bed clothing.

As an illustration of the scrupulous neatness and economy pervading the asylum, it may be worth while to state that the little girls are taught to save every feather that escapes while handling and brushing the pillows. These feathers are put in a little bag kept for that purpose in one of the closets. The Sister spoke strongly against the custom of letting children sleep together. She had seen much evil result from the practice.

In the infirmary were two little girls sick with consumption. The Sister says, "two died last summer. Only ten have died since we have been here, and these principally with consumption."

The lavatory is arranged for the children to wash in running water. Each child is provided with a little bag for her own comb. The bath-rooms in this establishment are of ample size, and so arranged and managed as to accomplish their ends perfectly. All the children are bathed every Saturday. Three Sisters stand at the tubs to supervise the washing and bathing of the children. These tubs are elevated so that they can do their work with less fatigue than otherwise. As the children leave the bath, each one is wrapped in a sheet and passes into the dressing room adjoining. Here they are wiped, rubbed dry and dressed under the superintendence of another Sister.

The laundry is supplied with hot and cold water. The soap used is bought by the Sisters in quantities, and seasoned for economy's sake in a dry loft before using.

A small force of the larger girls are engaged in the kitchen and refectory, and are changed every month. Here they are taught to do housework. A little bread is baked by the girls to teach them how to make it. Under the bread cutter was an aperture in the table, by

which all the bread crumbs were saved. These were browned in the oven in a dripping-pan, and used for thickening gravy. The kitchen as well as every department of the house is under the charge of a Sister.

The children at the time of our visit marched into the refectory, an older girl taking a younger one in charge. The larger girls sit opposite the smaller ones and cut their food for them. The children in reverent attitude, said the following grace before partaking of their meal: "In the name of the Father, of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Bless us O Lord, and these, Thy gifts, which from Thy bounty we receive through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, amen." The tables were covered with enameled cloth. The children had, with their supper, either stewed prunes or apple sauce and tea. After supper the children formed in three crescent lines on the back terrace, the larger girls forming the background. In this position they sang with peculiar sweetness several rhymes, among these were distinguished the following words:

"Singing, cheerily, cheerily, cheerily,
Clapping, merrily, merrily, merrily,
One, two, three, don't you see
Where the orphans ought to be?"

Also,

"See the neat little clock in the corner, it stands,
And points out the time with its two pretty hands."

All the children appeared bright and natural.

The whole number of children in the asylum received from 1870 to 1874, inclusive, was 146. It is not known how many were received since its organization. Of the 129 children, inmates at date of our visit, 100 were orphans, 25 were half orphans, and four had both parents living. All were thought to be of foreign parentage.

Two of the children were partially supported by parents or friends, 100 in part by the county of Albany, and 27 wholly by the institution. During the year ending September 30, 1875, eleven children were returned to parents or guardians, six were transferred to the industrial school, and four were otherwise discharged. The whole number received during the year was 23.

This asylum had a cash fund of \$2,000 on October 1, 1875. Its total expenditures during the year were \$8,429.24, and its present indebtedness amounts to \$55,142.

It is to be regretted, in view of what is being accomplished by this institution, that it should be obliged to carry so heavy a burden of debt. Its management has been described with some minuteness, as it

affords a marked illustration of the beautiful results that may be reached through devotion to a single object and by order and perfect system.

ST. JOSEPH'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL,

is located at 261 North Pearl street, in the building formerly occupied by St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, which removed to Broadway in 1865. At this time twelve of the older girls from the asylum remained, and the industrial school was commenced with them. It is supplied with inmates from St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum, from which the girls are transferred when about fourteen or fifteen years old.

The building is of brick. It is supplied with city water, heated by furnaces and lighted by gas. It is old, and needs enlargement and repairs to adapt it to its present use.

The institution is under the charge of ten Sisters of the Order of the Sisters of Charity. Sister Bernardine Farrell is superior.

Parochial and select schools are kept in the house, in the teaching of which seven of the Sisters are engaged. There are about 120 children in the select school, and 230 in the parochial.

On the day of visitation, September 9, there were 26 of the larger girls who made their home in the house, and who were being taught fine sewing, embroidery and dress-making. They were all orphans except three.

The work-room is large and well lighted, having windows on three of its sides. The girls were ranged around the room, sitting before neat little work-stands, on each of which a white cloth was spread. There were twenty-three of these stands in all. Behind these, others were running sewing machines. The room was cheery, the lively click of the sewing machines being varied by the song of a canary in his cage. The girls were plainly but neatly dressed, and were quite tidy in appearance.

Some very fine specimens of needle-work were here shown us, all of which were being made to supply orders. A first prize medal was also shown, which had been awarded the institution for ornamental work done by the young ladies, exhibited at the State fair.

The following information was furnished by Sister Bernardine in answer to inquiries: "At the age at which we receive young girls here, they are inclined to be wild, and need further protection. It takes some time to instruct them. We teach them all kinds of plain and fancy sewing, needle-work and embroidery. All are taught to use the sewing machine. As they are sufficiently taught, we get them suitable situations. We can only accommodate twenty-six, and we could have a hundred girls if we had accommodations for them. We need an in-

firmly very much, having no suitable accommodations for any who may be taken sick.

"About fifty young girls have already received the benefits of the institution, and have turned out well. Some have got married and others have entered Religious Orders. The girls mostly go into families when they leave us. Some go into stores. They have all their own wages when they go out, and, in many instances, they afterward bring their money to us to be saved for them. For such we open a bank account. Formerly, when they left the asylum, every cent they earned they put on their backs; but now they have learned to be economical and save their money. Not a single case has turned out badly, so far as we know, and we think we know all their histories. The girls give satisfaction wherever they live. Ladies seek to employ our girls, and seem to prefer them to any others. They are honest, cheerful and faithful. We endeavor constantly to inculcate these virtues. They have had previous good training at the asylum, and we try to follow it up here."

As a means for looking after the girls after leaving, the Sister said: "The girls have a society called the Children of Mary, and by this means the girls here and those who have left are brought together. There are two of these societies in the house, one for the girls who do not attend school, and another for the school-girls. Another society, called the Society of the Holy Angels, comprises the children in the parish school. Each society has its own president, secretary and treasurer. It is the business of the president to look after the absent ones. The latter society meets every Sunday afternoon at two o'clock, and continues in session until half-past three. From that they go to vespers.

"Our daily routine is as follows: The girls rise at five o'clock in summer, and at half past five in winter. Morning prayers take place at six, after which we have a short meditation. Breakfast is served at half past six. Little duties in housework and recreation occupy the morning till eight o'clock, when the sewing bell rings. The girls sew until 12 o'clock, then have recreation for half an hour, after which they go to dinner. At half-past one the sewing bell again rings, and the girls sew until supper time at six o'clock. After supper, recreation and study take up the time till eight, when the bell rings to retire, and all are in bed before nine o'clock."

No domestics are employed in the institution.

There is an excellent piano in the house, on which the girls during hours of recreation amuse themselves by playing and singing.

An interesting feature of this institution is that of reading at meal times. The head of the table is occupied by the president of the Society of the Children of Mary; another officer of the society occupies

the foot. One of the girls is appointed to read while the others are partaking of their meal. Each of the young ladies takes her turn in reading. One of the sisters is always present during breakfast.

The influence under which these young ladies are brought is believed to be very elevating and highly beneficial in its results. The Sisters engaged deserve better accommodations to carry on their work.

ST. VINCENT MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM,

Is located on Western avenue, about a mile and a quarter from the city hall. It is a large, plain, four-story, brick building. In front are shade trees, and beds of flowers embellish the grounds. On the city side is an extensive garden with a pleasant vine-covered arbor, a conservatory and an abundance of fruits and flowers. It is under the immediate charge of five of the Roman Catholic Order of the Christian Brothers, of whom Brother Amphian Farrell is superintendent. The force employed by the Brothers to assist in carrying on the work of the asylum consists of a tailor, a baker, a shoemaker, and three female domestics.

The building is lighted by kerosene, and heated by stoves. Its arrangement is as follows: The basement contains kitchen, refectory, store rooms, bake house and lavatory. On the first floor are reception room, sitting room, two class rooms and the chapel. On the second floor are two dormitories, an infirmary and clothes room. The third floor is occupied with a very large dormitory, in the center of which is an open space communicating with the belfry, affording an excellent ventilation. In the belfry is hung the large bell used to arouse the inmates to their daily duties.

There are four acres of land belonging to the institution, three of which are under garden cultivation. The garden supplies cabbages, onions, parsnips, carrots, beets, squashes, tomatoes, etc. Apples are grown to some extent. Pears and plums are raised upon the place, and also raspberries for the children. A small farm is connected with the establishment, the use of which is given by the Bishop. Three farm hands are employed. Eleven milch cows are kept upon the farm which supply the house with milk. Some, besides, is sold in the city. The asylum building is designed to accommodate one hundred inmates. At date of visitation, September 10th, the number of boys was one hundred and eight. Brother Amphian says: "We have more applications for admittance than we can accommodate, and have thirty applications ahead now. Some of these have been standing since December last. We could have five hundred boys in the institution, if we had the means to take care of them."

In answer to further inquiries relating to the asylum and its inmates Brother Amphian says: "The average age of the boys is ten years. They are sent to us by the overseers of the poor. For such children we are paid \$1.50 per week toward their support. Collections are made twice a year in the city to meet the additional expenses. The children are admitted upon a recommendation of the priests of the parish to which they belong, which recommendation must be certified to by Mr. Hoxsie, overseer of the poor. This precaution is taken to save us from imposition. A good many are brought to us who do not know their letters. The boys are permitted to remain till they are fourteen years old. On arriving at that age, if they have guardians they are invited to take them, and if they have not, we get places for them. We very seldom put them out before fourteen unless good places open. The guardians can take them at any time. No one is retained against his will. If a lad is a little homesick we try to keep him till he gets over it."

In regard to placing out children the Brother says: "The priests generally send persons here who want children. If the recommendations brought are not satisfactory we make further inquiries ourselves to satisfy us of the fitness of the applicant. The boys are encouraged to correspond with us after they leave here, and to visit us once a quarter. Those who reside in the city come to see us once a month, sometimes oftener. The Brothers encourage this. The children seem to know very little of the world when they go out."

In the school-room the Brothers use the wooden signal peculiar to their order. It has been in use since the time of De La Salle, the founder of the Christian Brothers, more than two hundred years ago. The following explanations of some of the signals were given: One stroke means "Look up;" two strokes, "Mistake;" three strokes, "Repeat the reading." Pointing downward, "Kneel down;" pointing upward, "Stand up," etc.

In regard to their education the Brother says: "We teach them reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, history and singing. An examination takes place on the first of December, at which time the board of supervisors generally visit us."

"At the close of the school in July we have an exhibition, which includes exercises in singing, dialogues, declamations, etc. To this entertainment the friends of the children are invited. It is generally held out of doors when the weather is pleasant. The attendance was very large last year, larger than we have ever had before. The evening following we generally give the boys a supper. We have a Christmas tree at Christmas, and a Christmas feast for the children. We celebrate the Fourth of July and also keep Thanksgiving day, on which occasion we give the boys an extra good dinner.

"In the way of industries they are taught farming and tailoring, and do a little work about the house. There are six in the kitchen and others in the refectory a part of the day.

"Our daily routine is as follows: The larger boys rise at half-past five, the smaller ones at six o'clock. They have morning prayers in the class rooms. The larger boys stay and recite till breakfast time at seven o'clock. After breakfast they work on the farm, or about the house setting every thing in order. After dinner they go into school at one o'clock and remain, excepting two intervals of recesses, till six o'clock. The smaller boys go into school at half-past eight, attend during the day and are dismissed at half-past three, having had the usual interval for dinner and recesses. Supper takes place at six o'clock, and recreation fills up the evening. The hour for evening prayers for the little boys is half-past seven, and for the larger ones eight o'clock. All are in bed before 8:30.

"We have morning mass at seven o'clock on Sundays and Thursdays. On Sundays we have vespers at 3.30.

"We find a very good way to enforce discipline is, to deprive the boys of recreation, and while others are playing give them something to study. We very seldom find it necessary to inflict corporal punishment."

The asylum chapel is a pleasant, well-lighted room, capable of accommodating about one hundred and twenty persons. The library contains about one hundred and fifty volumes. There are two dining rooms, one each for the larger and smaller boys. The tables are covered with white enameled cloth. At one end of each room was a dais on which was placed a table for the Brothers, who eat at the same time with the boys. In the bath-room were two bathing tubs. Each boy has a basin and towel to himself. All the rain-water is carefully saved in cisterns, and the boys are thus supplied with soft water to wash with. A good well supplies drinking water. There are play-rooms heated by stoves in winter. There were no inmates in the infirmary. Brother Amphian says: "We had some malarial fever last June. The Brothers believed it was caused by the slaughter-houses in the neighborhood." But one boy has died during the last two years. The dormitories were furnished with both wooden and iron single bedsteads. Straw beds were in use. One or more Brothers sleep in each dormitory.

Eight hundred boys have received the benefits of this institution since its foundation. Thirty-nine of the children at date of visitation were orphans, sixty-one were half-orphans and eight had both parents living. Nine were of native parents, and ninety-nine of foreign. Two were partially supported by their parents, and one hundred and six by public authorities. The number of inmates received during the year was twenty-five, the number discharged, twenty-seven. Of the latter

four were indentured, twenty-one returned to parents or guardians, one left without permission.

This asylum was founded in the year 1854, under the auspices of the Rt. Rev. J. McCloskey, then Bishop of Albany. It was given in charge of two members of the Order of Christian Brothers, who very shortly after its establishment had under their care forty-three boys. Its work has continued to grow steadily year after year. Its expenditures during the year were \$13,219.97, and its present indebtedness amounts to \$4,123.15.

The Brothers in charge of the asylum appeared to manifest a deep interest in their work, and are zealously endeavoring to lessen the public burdens growing out of pauperism and crime.

THE CAYUGA ASYLUM FOR DESTITUTE CHILDREN,

Auburn,

Was incorporated by an act of the legislature May 10th, 1852. Several months prior to its incorporation a few benevolent ladies of Auburn, desiring to make some provision for homeless and destitute children, rented a small building on James street, gathered in a number of this class and supported them for a time principally by their own labors and contributions. In July, 1853, a lot of about two acres on Owasco street, on which the asylum now stands, was purchased. At the time there was a small wooden building upon it, which, although somewhat larger than the one vacated on James street, was soon found to be insufficient, on account of the rapidly increasing numbers. Encouraged by a legacy of \$2,700, made by Dr. Healy of Onondaga, the erection of the main edifice was undertaken in 1857. An appeal was made to the public for aid to carry out this enterprise, which was cheerfully and liberally responded to, and the building was completed the same year. The school building was added in 1865. The main building is of brick, three stories high above the basement, and forty-eight feet front by sixty feet deep. Water from the city supplies every floor. The ceilings are of good height. The dining room, kitchen, laundry and bathing rooms are in the basement. There are three large rooms in the second and third stories occupied as dormitories. Part of three stories are divided into rooms for the matron and her assistants. A nursery, parlor and a large reception room, where the lady managers meet, are on the first floor. Gas is used for light. The matron thinks the use of kerosene dangerous in such institutions. The lamps are liable to be overturned, even with the greatest care, and serious consequences may ensue. Attached to the main building is a

brick structure, thirty-eight by forty feet, used for a school room. The school is under the direction of the board of education of the city.

The financial affairs of the asylum are under the control of a board of trustees. The dispensing of its income and the management of its internal and domestic affairs are directed by a board of ladies. In a large number of the towns in Cayuga county societies are organized which work as auxiliaries to the asylum. They are composed of ladies, who sew, knit and otherwise render efficient aid toward supporting the little ones in the asylum. The children are mainly supplied with clothing, and with all their woolen stockings from this source. One of these societies, the Sherwood's Auxiliary society, sent in, during the last season, between forty and fifty entire suits of boys' clothing. The president of each of these societies is entitled to representation in the managing board. The asylum is under the immediate charge of Mrs. J. G. Rogers, matron, who has held this position and discharged its arduous duties about fourteen years. She employs such female assistants as she deems necessary — at present five. A man is employed for out-door duties.

Great need is felt for suitable hospital accommodations. The matron in this connection says: "When any disease comes in, the children are all exposed, there being no suitable place in the house for the care of the sick. I have had as many as sixty children down with the measles at one time." One little boy at the time of our visit was suffering from scarlet fever.

The dormitories are furnished with double bedsteads, some wooden and some iron. The matron would prefer to have the children sleep singly. The school was believed to be quite efficiently conducted. The girls are taught housekeeping and sewing to some extent in the asylum, and those who are old enough attend a church industrial school during the winter months. The little boys weed in the garden. A Sabbath school is held on the premises, and the children are otherwise religiously instructed.

Great pains, it is stated, is taken to find good homes for the children, and especial care is exercised to insure their being morally and religiously instructed in their new situations. There is no committee charged with the especial duty of visiting the children after being placed out. The matron does this as far as practicable, keeping up a correspondence with them. "There is scarcely a day in the week," she says, "but I have a letter from some of the children that have left us." The matron's opinion, founded on experience, in regard to placing children out of asylums before the right kind of a home is obtained, is given as follows: "I do not believe in hurrying children out. They should not leave until a home of the right kind can be found. Many homes that are called good, are places where they get children up at

four o'clock in the morning. We require every applicant for children to come well recommended, and to give strong pledges that they will do justly by our children. We take great pains at first, because we do not like to have a child come back. It ruins a child to be returned two or three times. People that do not succeed in managing their own children, will sometimes find a great deal of fault with a child from the asylum." Children are received quite young. One baby in the nursery department was but twelve months old, and fourteen of the children were under two years of age.

On the date of visitation there were ten colored children in the asylum, two girls and eight boys. No prejudice was said to exist on account of color. The matron aims to inculcate among the children a spirit of love. One of the inmates was a little, helpless, half orphan girl, suffering from curvature of the spine, and unable to walk. The matron found great difficulty in taking care of her, and thought she ought to be in an asylum especially devoted to this class. Another of the inmates of the asylum is now being fitted for college, and one who has been an inmate is now a teacher.

The following information was furnished by the matron regarding other former inmates. "A young man, having had the advantages of an education in the higher branches given the advanced scholars in the Asylum by the Board of Education of the city, graduated in the primary and high schools, and was sent by friends of the institution to college, where he led his class each term and won the highest honors in graduating. He is now in the office of a leading and influential law firm in a neighboring state, associated with gentlemen of culture. Another, a true Christian, who gives promise of great usefulness, regards the Asylum as a home and mother to him. A young girl of intellectual ability is nearly through an advanced course of study, and arrangements are made by friends to place her in an Eastern Seminary next year, to fit her for a teacher. Both of the last named are orphans, and but for the Asylum, would have been destitute."

A good sized garden is connected with the institution in which a great variety of vegetables are grown. The place is stocked with a variety of fruit-trees, and a goodly sized lawn in one of the angles is shaded with forest trees. Under these in pleasant summer weather, the children partake frequently of their meals. The play ground is large. A high latticed fence incloses the grounds. The outbuildings are new, and in good repair, and the property bears evidence of being carefully preserved. During the past year some desirable improvements have been made in the sanitary condition of the premises in the way of drainage, and in the building of a new barn with a cellar for the storing of vegetables heretofore kept under the main building. Still a need is felt for play rooms during inclement weather.

During the past year an energetic effort has been made in the way of placing out children with excellent results. By this means the expenses of the society have been lessened, and the children brought under family influence. The number of children in the institution, October 1, 1875, was sixty-five. Of these seven were orphans, fifty-two half-orphans, and six had both parents living. Fifty-seven were of native and eight of foreign parentage. All were from Cayuga County, excepting one each from the counties of Chemung, Seneca and Tompkins. Towards the support of seven of the children, the parents paid a small sum. The number received during the past year was fifty-seven; the number discharged was seventy-two; and the number who died, three.

It is customary for the Board of Supervisors to make an annual appropriation towards aiding the benevolent work carried on by the ladies and gentlemen of the Asylum. The invested funds of the Asylum amount to \$5,500. The sum total of its expenditures for the year ending October 1, 1875, was \$8,813.42. Its indebtedness was \$500.

The whole number of children received in the institution since its organization is one thousand one hundred and fifty-nine.

When it is considered what would have been the consequences to society had the large number of children, that have received the benefits of this institution, been left to grow up in neglect, the important advantages resulting from this worthy charity may be to some extent, though not wholly appreciated.

One very noticeable feature of this work is that it takes with a kindly hand those children who, but for this aid, would be left to pauperism and criminality. For many years past the enlightened public sentiment in this community has rescued all the children from the poor-house, taking them generally from the Town Overseer or the Superintendent of the Poor before going there. Aside from the moral effects growing out of this Christian work, the pecuniary burthens of the Poor Department have been greatly lessened, and the taxpayers of the county are largely indebted to those who have generously sustained the asylum and carried on its work.

Within the year past the society has lost two of its staunch friends, both of whom gave substantial evidence of their interest in generous bequests. One of these, John H. Chedell, was a member of the Board of Trustees at the time of his decease. The following resolutions were adopted by the Board of Trustees December 4th, in relation to the other, its beloved President:

Resolved, That we have heard with sentiments of profound sorrow, the announcement of the death of James S. Seymour, Esq., the President of this Board from its first organization, a period of more than twenty-three years.

Mr. Seymour's long connection with this charity was marked by the same religious earnestness, sincere benevolence, prudent counsel, and systematic liberality which characterized his relations to all worthy undertakings for the glory of God and the good of his fellow-men; the interests of none of which were more constantly in his thoughts or nearer his heart than those of the "Cayuga Asylum for Destitute Children." We feel that it is not too much to say that in his death the asylum has lost its oldest and best friend.

Resolved, That our Secretary furnish a copy of these resolutions to the daily press of the city for publication, and that this board attend the funeral of its revered President in a body.

H. N. LOCKWOOD,
Sec'y Board of Trustees.

THE NEW YORK STATE INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

Batavia.

This institution is located in the village of Batavia, Genesee Co. It was established by an act of the Legislature, April 7, 1865. The village presented to the State fifty acres of desirable land for its site, to which has been added sixteen acres. A considerable extent of ground in front of the institution has been graded and tastefully laid out in graveled walks, forming a beautiful park, where the inmates may promenade in safety. This improvement has greatly enhanced the value of the property. It is located in the outskirts of the village. The site is somewhat elevated, and commands pleasing views of a rich agricultural district. The edifice is a spacious brick structure, and its construction affords a noteworthy example of discretion exercised with official integrity. The Board of Commissioners appointed by the Governor, by and with the consent of the Senate, charged with the duty of erecting the buildings, before proceeding to make contracts, visited in company with an architect other institutions of like character, taking time to gather such information as was desirable from the superintendents in charge. A plan for the building having been carefully prepared and approved by the Governor, Comptroller and Secretary of State, the corner-stone was laid September 6, 1866, and the building was completed July 15, 1868. The expenditure, which included the grading of the grounds about the building, digging of well, the providing of a steam engine, cooking range, etc., as well as the erection of carriage-house and stable, was less by a few hundred dollars than the sum originally contemplated as being necessary to carry out the project. An examination of the building shows it to have been solidly constructed with good materials.

The building is three stories in height above the basement, the latter being constructed of lime-stone quarried on the site. The water-table,

quoin-blocks and window dressings are of Lockport stone. The building faces the south, and is composed of four structures, a front and rear, center, and two wings connected by corridors, each fourteen by thirty-two feet, which contain the halls and staircases. The central buildings are fifty by sixty-two feet, and fifty by seventy feet respectively; the wings are each forty-six by one hundred and six feet; and the distance from the front to the rear, including portico, is one hundred and eighty-five feet.

The basement contains the laundry, including washing, ironing and drying rooms, bathing rooms and water closets for pupils, besides the rooms for the heating apparatus, coal vaults, cellars, etc. The stories above the basement contain over one hundred rooms, making ample provision for office and reception rooms, public parlors and library; family rooms for the resident officers and teachers, and dining, school, study and sleeping rooms for one hundred and fifty pupils. The building is heated by steam throughout, and the arrangements for ventilation and bathing are adequate. The rain water from the roof is conducted into two large cisterns, having a capacity of five thousand barrels, from which it is pumped by steam into tanks situated in the attics, and thence distributed by pipes to the different parts of the edifice. In addition to this provision, a well about fifty feet deep, furnishes an inexhaustible supply of excellent water.

The institution at its opening was placed under the charge of the late Dr. A. D. Lord, who had formerly been Superintendent of the Ohio Institution for the Blind, and who was President of the American Association of Instructors of the Blind till his death. To his large experience, adaptability for the work, and his strong sympathies for this class and his excellent moral influence, the success of the institution is mainly attributable. His death was felt to be a serious loss. In the emergency his wife, who had been associated with him in his life labor at all times, as a practical assistant, consented to assume the grave responsibilities lately borne by her husband, and has since discharged them, it is asserted, with ability and to the satisfaction of the Board of Managers and the public.

The most recent visitation was made October 30, at which date, the institution contained one hundred and fifty-three inmates, eighty-six girls and sixty-seven boys. The full course of instruction covers a period of seven years. The district from which pupils are received embraces all the counties in the State, except those of Kings, Queens, New York and Suffolk. During the first month of the past school year, the pupils numbered one hundred and twenty-five, and at its close one hundred and fifty-seven. The total number enrolled since the opening of the institution is two hundred and eighty-two, one hundred and fifty males, and one hundred and thirty-two females. Twenty-

six pupils have been discharged during the year. Twelve of these left through illness ; two to follow the broom trade, and one was transferred to the military school, Dayton, Ohio.

The school of the institution was found to be in a flourishing condition. A similar course of instruction is adopted as in the institution in New York. The pupils receive a good English education in grammar, analysis, writing, geography, civil government, natural philosophy, mental philosophy, physiology, history and algebra. About seventy can read and write by the point print system of Superintendent Wait of New York. Three literary societies are held among the pupils. The excelsior lyceum is composed of the older pupils ; it sustains a literary paper, and gives public entertainments. The junior societies, made up of the younger pupils, have entertainments among themselves.

Great pains is taken with the musical education of the pupils. There are three vocal classes, the advanced, the intermediate, and the primary. The first of these numbers fifty pupils, and the two latter forty each. One hundred and ten pupils have been taking lessons on the piano, cabinet organ, and melodeon, fifteen on the violin, and a class on the pipe organ has been commenced within the year. Two brass bands have been formed by the pupils, one numbering eleven and the other thirteen members. The junior of these is taught by one of the pupils. The resignation of one of the lady teachers causing a vacancy, an experiment was tried of employing pupils to act in that capacity with very satisfactory results. The experience has proved a practical benefit to the pupils who hope in the future to obtain a livelihood by teaching music. The importance of this kind of training to the pupils is becoming more and more manifest. The late Dr. Lord on this point remarks: "What the educated blind may yet accomplish we cannot foretell; however, it is a fact of no little importance, that at this time and for several years past, the superintendents of some four or five institutions are blind men who were educated as such ; that a number of the most successful teachers of the blind and the seeing are of this class, and that the second purely educational institution in Europe was originated and established, and is still conducted by a graduate of one of our institutions."

Among the industrial features of this institution is the broom shop where the young men learn a trade, by which they are rendered partially, if not wholly self-supporting. Twenty-four were employed here during the year. Two had already perfected themselves in the trade and left, and six others were expected to leave during the session. The girls are taught bead work, at which one hundred and three were engaged during the year. They are also instructed in both hand and machine sewing, crocheting and fancy work generally.

The health of the inmates was good. There were only four cases of sickness during the year.

From visitations made to this institution from time to time, it is believed that its general affairs are faithfully managed, that the educational interests of the pupils are in the hands of an efficient corps of teachers, and that not only its present work, but past history is creditable to the State.

THE DAVENPORT INSTITUTION FOR FEMALE ORPHAN CHILDREN.

Bath.

The situation of this institution is quite picturesque, and its surroundings are peculiarly attractive. It is located upon an elevated terrace of two or three acres in extent, upon one side of the Conhocton Valley, a little apart from the village of Bath. Between the town and the Asylum the Conhocton river flows, bordered by willows and stately elms. In the rear of the building rise abruptly a range of wooded hills covered mostly with evergreens and presenting a belt of dark green foliage in pleasing contrast to the soft grey stone, of which the edifice is constructed. Immediately back of it in the forest is a pleasant play-ground for the children. In front of the Asylum are the rich bottom meadow lands belonging to the institution, down to which the lawn, several hundred feet across, slopes.

The property comprises about sixty acres of land; five of which are in woodland and three in orchard. An abundance of apples, strawberries and grapes are grown.

This Asylum had its origin in the benevolence of the late Col. Ira Davenport of Bath. It is said that the condition of friendless and destitute female orphan children had always awakened his profoundest commiseration, and that the founding of this institution for their protection was the consummation of a long cherished purpose.

He began to erect a building designed for this class in 1861. This institution was incorporated in 1863, and the first orphan received July 19, 1864. The main building was erected during his life, and since his death, a large wing has been added by his executors in accordance with the provisions of his will. The buildings are designed to be fire-proof, and are roofed with slate. Two stone towers vary the outline of their front. A large and commodious barn with stables, hennery and stock yard has been recently built upon the grounds. The whole property is being inclosed by substantial fences. The grounds have been graded, and but little further expenditure is contemplated to complete the institution. When this is accomplished, it is designed to apply the whole of the income to the primary object of the work. As the building will

then accommodate one hundred and twenty-five children, its beneficent influence will be still more widely felt throughout the country. The property is unincumbered, and has been liberally endowed by its founder. To the endowment fund, Mr. Charles Davenport, of Allegany county, a brother of the founder, contributed the sum of \$30,000. The purpose of the founder and the intention now being carried out is to give a home to orphan and destitute girls, received between five and nine years of age, where they will be educated and fitted for earning a competence for themselves through life.

The institution, on date of visitation, July 28th, contained forty-four inmates. Three of these were orphans, thirty-five were half-orphans, and six had both parents living. Thirty-eight were of native parents and six of foreign. Girls from all parts of the State are eligible for admission, but preference is given to the counties of Steuben and Allegany. They receive a good practical education. To each is imparted a given amount of schooling, and all are required to spend a portion of time in learning to do housework. A school is conducted on the premises. The management of the internal economy of the asylum is committed to the Superintendent, Mr. Elisha Child, whose wife acts as matron. Religious instruction is daily imparted by the Superintendent and his wife. Sunday services are held in the asylum by ministers from Bath, the different denominations alternating.

The by-laws of the institution require that "the children shall be carefully instructed in the principles and duties of the Christian religion, as contained in the Holy Scriptures, and such instruction shall not be confined to the peculiar tenets of any one distinct sect, denomination or church."

The interior of the building is in keeping with its external surroundings; choice engravings and photographs, selected with classic taste, and calculated to have an elevating and refining influence upon the inmates are hung in the halls and various rooms of the house.

The dormitories are large and airy, each being designed to accommodate twelve inmates. They are furnished with iron bedsteads. Connected with each dormitory is a closet fitted up with drawers, shelves and hooks for the wearing apparel of the girls, enabling each girl to have a separate compartment for the care of her own wardrobe. The girls are dressed uniformly, either in blue, check, or brown gingham.

Two sewing machines are kept in use, and the older girls are instructed in machine sewing. The housework is done by the girls, under competent supervision. No domestics are employed, and those acting in the capacity of instructors are selected with reference to their educational advantages and fitness for exerting a good moral influence upon the children.

The building is heated by furnaces, lighted with kerosene and supplied with spring water, which is carried through it as far as the second floor. Fire-proof staircases afford ready egress. The ceilings are high, flues are laid in the walls for purposes of ventilation, and the windows are large.

The laundry is in a wing, separate from the main building. Roots and vegetables are stored in the barn cellar.

The health of the children was remarkably good. The Superintendent says: "We have been in charge of this institution three years and three months, and have not had a single case of sickness requiring us to call a physician. We attribute this to plenty of wholesome and nutritious food, regular habits in diet and exercise, well-ventilated rooms, and clothing adapted to the varying seasons and changes in the weather.

The children are kept in the institution till they can be disposed of in suitable homes. Some are adopted; others enter families as domestics. All necessary precaution is observed in their disposition, and so far, we are informed, the children placed out seem to be well contented themselves, and to give satisfaction to the parties taking them. Although there is no regular system for visiting the children after they leave the institution, it is stated that an endeavor is made to look after their interest, and that in various ways their prosperity and well being is ascertained. Each girl on leaving is furnished with a trunk, two or three dresses, a quantity of underclothing, and two pairs of shoes. Each girl has the privilege of coming back to the institution twice a year, and spending a day with the children. On these occasions they return to it, it is said, as to their own home.

No case of a girl running away is on record, and but two of children who had to be removed. One of these was that of a girl who developed a tendency to insanity. This exhibited itself in a disposition to kill hens, birds, cats or dogs. Dr. Gray, of Utica, was sent for, and pronounced her a fit subject for his asylum, to which she was accordingly transferred. The other was that of a girl who came from a very bad family, with vicious habits already formed. Her influence upon the other inmates being pernicious, she could not be retained in the house. A place in a farmer's family was, we were informed, procured for her, from which she ran away and became so very depraved, that all hope of reforming her in the asylum was given up.

The real estate of the institution, including building, fixtures and furniture, is valued at \$142,300, and its invested funds at \$155,800.

In the meadow previously referred to, near the banks of the Conhocton, is a little inclosure, surrounding a plain, unpretending obelisk, which marks the resting place of the founder of this beautiful charity, Col. Ira Davenport. Here are also buried the children who may die

in the asylum. This simple monument, surrounded, as it eventually must be, with the head-stones of little children, brings a thought of the land of the hereafter, and is typical of the beatific form of this lover of children, surrounded by an angelic little flock of those who in this life had shared his sympathy and care.

SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY HOME AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR
INDIGENT CHILDREN.

Binghamton.

The Susquehanna Valley Home and Industrial School for Indigent Children is located about a mile and a half from the city of Binghamton, on the left bank of the Susquehanna. The building stands upon an eminence, the ground sloping away from it riverward and slightly landward. There are forty-five acres belonging to the institution. It lies in a lovely bend of the river, which sweeps in almost a semi-circle around the tract bordered by a growth of native forest trees overhanging the water and fringing it with beauty. Across the river, to the right, upon a still higher eminence, about a mile away, rises the imposing facade of the Inebriate Asylum. The view extends in both directions, up and down the Susquehanna Valley, from the hills where the river is seen to emerge, till it disappears in the opposite direction. Its undulating slopes, covered with the gorgeous drapery of autumn, the city of Binghamton, with its tasteful spires and villas—just far enough away to give a hint of the busy world, without its din—the Chenango Valley, rifted in the distant hills in front, combine to form a landscape that, in diversity of outline and variety of color, is rarely surpassed, and which must have a happy influence on the susceptible minds of children.

The property is a valuable one, and cost \$20,000.00. Its purchase reflects credit upon the sagacity of those who secured it for the public use.

The building is of brick, two stories high, with a basement and attic in addition. It is in the form of a parallelogram, fifty by sixty feet, with two-story porches, twelve by twenty-two feet, at each end.

A good-sized substantial brick barn is situated at a safe distance, in case of fire, from the main building.

Adjoining the main edifice there has been recently erected a frame building for a children's play-room. The construction of the main building is such as to effect an entire separation of the sexes, except in the school-room. While at out-door play they intermingle. The

building is warmed by steam. Its water supply is derived from a well and from the rain, which is collected in cisterns. Water pipes extend as far as the first floor of the building, to which the water is pumped by hand. The supply, however, is inadequate, and snow water was used last winter. The windows are large, and the sash adjusted by cords, weights and pulleys. The rooms are high and airy. In the basement is a bath room, containing two large bath tubs and a good-sized bathing vat, supplied with hot and cold water. The superintendent states that the inmates are bathed every Saturday.

There are six or eight fire-places in the building, some of which are used sufficiently to afford a fine ventilation. The edifice was built for a private residence, and, on the whole, answers its present purpose very well, though, in some respects, it is inconvenient. The wash-room is in the basement, and the steam and unwholesome odor from the clothes permeates, as it naturally must, other parts of the house. The main halls of the building are twelve feet wide, and are decorated with tasteful mottoes. The school room is large, well-lighted, and cheerful. The dormitories are warmed in cold or damp weather. At the time of last visitation, July 29th, the bedsteads were being changed, and a new set, made of iron, were being put in.

The closets are outside of the building and about sixty feet from it. The drainage of the premises is good. No provision is made for a hospital ward, which is greatly needed.

The Susquehanna Valley Home originated in 1868, in the efforts of the benevolent citizens of Binghamton and the surrounding country, to make better provision for the care of destitute children; particularly for such as were inmates of poor-houses, of which there were then large numbers.

At the time of the first general visitation made to the poor-houses of the State by the Secretary of this Board, Dr. Charles S. Hoyt, soon after its organization, it was found, as appears from the report submitted to the Board, and which was transmitted to the Legislature, March 22, 1869, that the surroundings of the children in such poor-houses of the State, as made a practice of keeping them, was deplorable. In Broome county, the buildings were of wood, old, out of repair, and crowded with inmates. The arrangements for heating and ventilating were imperfect. There were no bath-tubs in the house. In summer, the inmates, when inclined, bathed in the river; and in winter, in their rooms or the wash-house. A proper classification in consequence of the arrangement of the building was impossible. The sexes, it is true, were separate at night, but during the day all classes and ages, including idiots and the insane, freely associated. A large number of adult inmates had been brought to want, in consequence of habits of inebriety, others in consequence of vagrancy, idleness and

debauchery; while a few were dependent from sickness and the infirmities of age. Six were negroes of a low type. The whole number of inmates was sixty-eight; twenty-one, or nearly one-third of this number, were children. They were taught in a week-day school, but received no religious instruction beyond the attendance upon service held at the house, and designed more especially for adults.

Subsequent to the visitation to the poor-house, the Secretary held personal conferences with several prominent citizens of Binghamton, and urged upon them the importance of taking measures to secure the proper care and training of these poor children. The fact that the property known as the Susquehanna Valley Seminary building, possessed by the State, could probably be secured as a shelter for the children in this and neighboring counties, until permanent arrangements for their care could be provided, was presented as a fitting opportunity to begin a work on their behalf. This appeal of the Secretary was followed by energetic action on the part of leading residents, including earnest Christian ladies of Broome and the surrounding counties, in which Commissioner Miller co-operated, resulting, finally, in establishing the Susquehanna Valley Home and Industrial School, for Indigent Children. The Home was incorporated March 15, 1869.

The Boards of Supervisors of the counties of Cortland, Delaware, Sullivan and Tioga, took prompt action in the matter, and authorized the Superintendents to send destitute children to the Home as soon as it was ready to receive them. The price agreed upon for maintenance, at the outset, was \$1.25 per week. It was subsequently found necessary to increase this sum to \$2, and even this amount does not cover all the cost of supporting and clothing the children, and there is still need of aid from the benevolent to sustain the institution. It occupied at first, under lease, the Susquehanna Valley Seminary building, and about four years ago came to use its present property. The legislature in 1874 appropriated \$16,000 to the Home "to be paid upon the execution of deed of the property of said corporation to the State." Its indebtedness was thus liquidated.

The school appeared to be efficiently conducted. The children responded promptly in their exercises, and displayed creditable proficiency in history, geography, civil government, astronomy and rudimentary studies. Their singing of the "Bright Forever" and "Home, Dear Home," was in good time and distinct. The teacher stated that her pupils were perfectly familiar with thirty different hymns. Twenty-five out of twenty-nine of the children repeated correctly their last Sabbath school lesson, the Ten Commandments and the Twenty-third Psalm. The Sabbath school, it was stated, was one of the best, if not the best, in the county. Mr. Northrop, the superintendent, has

great faith in the good effect of singing on the minds of the children. He says "They learn hymns that have a good moral or religious sentiment, and sing them while at play. Every such hymn learned, is a seed planted which will bring forth its fruit in due time." He thinks the children's choir is as good as any in the city. "We have," he says, "an organ in the school-room, and the school opens with music. During exercises the children have a little practice, and then, again, at close of school. I make it a point to secure teachers who are accomplished in music. We have now one teacher, but the managers have consented to my employing an assistant specially qualified to teach vocal music."

We saw the children while at the dinner table; they appeared to have abundance to eat; the food was well cooked and properly seasoned. The dietary, we were informed, is as follows: Bread and milk for breakfast. For dinner, either meat or fish, with seasonable vegetables, such as squashes, peas, beans, onions, tomatoes, cabbage, turnips, etc.; the meat used is mostly in the form of corned beef. For supper, bread and butter is furnished; sometimes bread and apple sauce, or bread and molasses.

The children's clothing is cut and made up in the house.

The institution is under the direction of a Board of Managers, composed of nine gentlemen. These are aided by a Board of Assistant Managers, composed of ladies and gentlemen residing in Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Sullivan, Tioga and Tompkins counties. The various villages and towns in the several counties named being represented in the Board of Assistant Managers.

The Home itself is under the immediate charge of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Northrop, Superintendent and Matron. The subordinate force consists of a teacher, assistant teacher, sewing woman, baker, cook, chamber girl and farm hand.

The importance of placing dependent children under good influences while young, is thus emphasized by the Superintendent: "I am in favor of having children taken in younger than the rules of the house will now permit. We now receive them between the ages of three and sixteen. I would rather have the first three years of the child's life than the next ten. A little girl, not over three years old, came here some time ago from the County House. She had been associated with pauper women, and it was lamentable to see what she knew at that tender age. She showed all the old pauper ways in her actions. Every thing she said or did savored of the old pauper. She had been with them a little less than three years, and yet it took a long time to get out of her head the snatches of improper songs and other things that she had learned while there.

"I think we should have a nursery. The necessities of the institu-

tion demand it. The younger we can get children the better. I think children can be disciplined before they get to be three or even two years old. When a child begins to show spunk, it is old enough to be taught to mind, no matter if its age be only six months. A boy six years of age came here from the the Chenango County Poor-house, where he had been since he was quite young. He was kept with fools, and insane people. He could not speak except to say, 'Want to go to fool's part.' He had no manners at table; in fact, he was a perfect savage. He has been here eight months, and shows a marked improvement. He talks, and is at length learning the ways of civilized people. Another from Delaware county, a little girl, came here full of pauper slang. She would have been ruined had she remained in the County House. She has been adopted into a family, has lost her pauper habits, and the family think every thing of her. In rare instances I get children who belong to the incorrigible class. I had one boy an inmate who came to the institution with an unmanageable spirit. Under careful treatment he changed, and became a very bright and useful boy; but unfortunately he developed an irresistible propensity toward thievery. He was convicted several times and forgiven, but at length it became apparent that his influence upon the other children was bad, while the mild home discipline which we here adopt was insufficient for his reform, and I was obliged to have him sent to the Western House of Refuge.

"My discipline is just as varied as are the cases for discipline. It is impossible to lay down any system that will apply equally well in every case. I do not have a great string of rules, I simply say to the children, 'Do what is right, and do not do what is wrong.' I let the children in every case decide whether or not they have lived up to this rule. A complaint comes to me that a certain boy has been doing some wrong act. I call him. 'Have you been doing so and so?' 'Yes, sir; I did not know that you had forbidden it.' I ask, 'What did I tell you not to do?' 'You said I must not do wrong.' 'What did I say you must do?' 'You said I must do right.' I then ask if he thinks what he has done is right, and he answers 'No, sir.' 'Then have I not forbidden it?' I lead them on in this way till they convict themselves. I try to fasten in their minds the principle of *right* and *wrong*, and awaken conscience. I do not punish for the first or second offense, but if it is repeated the third time, I resort to punishment. For punishment I sometimes make them stand upon one foot. When two get to fighting, I supply them with whips and make them flog each other. They do not care to do this, and I find it a pretty effective cure for fighting."

In regard to the disposal of the children, Mr. Northrop remarks: "Children are let out on trial sixty days to parties approved of by the

Board of Managers, after which they are indentured, if satisfactory to both parties. A record is made regarding the disposition of the children, and the ladies scattered throughout the country who compose the Assistant Board of Lady Managers, visit them from time to time, and ascertain and report as to their condition and well-being. The boys do the odds and ends of work around the house, and assist in garden and farm work. The girls learn to do general housework and to sew and knit."

The garden yields all the vegetables used in the institution. Four cows are kept to supply the children with milk.

The number of inmates received during the year was twenty-six; the number discharged, twenty. Of the latter, two left without permission, seven were indentured, and eight returned to parents or guardians. The number of children received from 1870 to 1875 inclusive, was two hundred and fifty-seven. The real estate, including building, fixtures, etc., is valued at \$35,700. The expenditures during the past year were \$22,582.67. Of this sum, \$16,021.29 was paid out for indebtedness upon real estate. The present indebtedness of the institution is \$700.

The number of children in this institution October 1, 1875, was sixty. Of these, six were orphans, ten half-orphans, and in forty-four cases nothing was known regarding the parents. Twelve were of foreign parentage, and the parentage of forty-eight was unknown.

The people of Binghamton, as well as those in surrounding counties, who are interested in the work of the Susquehanna Valley Home, are not only benefiting society morally, but are largely reducing the burdens of public taxation, growing out of pauperism and crime. It is a well-established fact that the operation of this institution has considerably reduced the number of inmates in the Broome County poor-house and the poor-houses of several of the adjoining counties, and has broken off a great many hereditary lines of pauperism in families. Its supporters are certainly entitled to the full sympathy of the public.

BROOKLYN CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

Brooklyn.

The following interesting scrap of history is furnished in regard to this Society, which during the past ten years has been carrying on a great work of reform in the city of Brooklyn. We give it substantially in the language of the narrator:

In 1866, the lower wards of the city, notably the Second, Fifth, Sixth and Twelfth, were infested with a growing class of lads, in ages ranging from ten years to twenty, who had been driven by their cir-

cumstances in part, and partly by their education, to seek their living by begging and theft. Of course there were many who honestly depended on chance jobs for their living, but without any steady homes, loafing on the street corners in squads by day, and gathering, as the shades of night were falling, in the liquor stores to pass away the evening and arrange for some sort of lodgings which they must seek when they were compelled to leave these haunts. There was but slight chance of these boys ever becoming any thing but confirmed sots and outlaws.

The out-cropping of this increasingly alarming state of affairs at last aroused a number of wealthy citizens to take some steps to protect their property, by abating the nuisance which was assuming proportions almost too vast to be handled by ordinary legal means. Moral restraints are always more efficient than legal. It was, therefore, decided at a meeting held January 13, 1866, at the residence of a prominent citizen of Brooklyn, to perfect an organization whose object should be "the protection, care and shelter of friendless and vagrant youth—furnishing them with food and raiment and lodging; aiding and administering to their wants, providing them with occupation, instructing them in moral and religious truths, and in the rudiments of education, and with such means as the society can properly employ, endeavoring to make them virtuous and useful citizens." The organization of the society was perfected at this meeting.

Almost at the very outset those engaged in this humane enterprise were encouraged by a munificent donation of valuable, improved property on State street, the rents of which now afford a considerable addition to the income of the society. Other citizens, including a large number belonging to a class who give with no stinted hand, contributed liberal sums to the object; in one case, reaching as high as \$20,000.

On September 1, 1866, the first lodging house for street boys was opened at 61 Poplar street, and the Society commenced a career of usefulness which has never paused either by night or day. A second lodging house was opened September 1, 1869, in connection with the work in the Sixth and Twelfth wards, at 139 Van Brunt street.

In the first General Superintendent, Mr. William A. Lawrence, the society secured an active and discreet agent, under whose direction its work was successfully inaugurated and conducted to the satisfaction of the Board of Managers. He held this important position up to April 1, 1873."

Both the Poplar and Van Brunt Street houses have been visited, the former at the date of October 16. From the General Superintendent, Mr. R. D. Douglass, the following information relating to the workings of the society were given:

"Our organization comprises lodging-house work, sewing machine school work, industrial school work and special relief work.

"Our lodging-houses are for homeless boys.

"Our sewing machine school is for girls who must earn their own living.

"Our industrial schools are for poor children who are compelled, by circumstances, to gain what little education they may in an irregular and disjointed fashion.

"Our special relief department finds homes in city and country for homeless boys and girls.

"In each lodging-house an evening school for the lodgers is carried on during the winter, also a day school for very young children, who come from the families living in the vicinity of the lodging-houses."

These children are not the inmates of the Homes at night, but are drawn from those families in the neighborhood of the Homes which, from various causes, are unable to send their children to school regularly, or who find it difficult to provide suitable clothing for them. In this department we have made a long stride in advance by the introduction of the Kindergarten System.

With the aid of Miss E. M. Coe, of New York, we have arranged a modification of this system, and adapted it to our own peculiar needs. "Always busy" is the motto of the system, and "always learning something practical." The eager curiosity of childhood is made available, and both the interest and the substantial progress of the children is something we are very proud of.

The evening schools are under the management of superintendents.

"Ever since the Home was opened, it has been our custom to secure the services of several ladies and gentlemen who could give up one evening in each week to the instruction of classes in our evening schools. We have been singularly fortunate in our teachers, several of whom have been with us for many years. This is one of the most powerful influences which we can bring to bear upon these boys. No boy can be in the presence of persons of culture and sympathy without feeling a strong desire to be better and wiser.

"One of our boys was asked to commit some depredations on the property here, and he replied, 'You don't catch me going back on my teacher like that.' The influence of the teacher is very great. Every day we find some fresh encouragement in our work. Ten years ago a class of large boys who were criminals, perfectly reckless of any law, a terror to the police and the community, existed among us. As soon as we opened our house a large number of that class came in. In the course of a month there was a decided change. Now that class, as a class, have gone from the city. They are scattered, and are mostly doing well.

"And if it were not for those causes, intemperance, death and disease, which constantly operate to throw children upon their own resources, we should soon be able to reduce the capacity of our lodging-houses and bring our expenses within even a smaller sum than is now required. But there is no cessation of the causes which fill our lodging-houses with unfortunate and homeless children, and there is the ever recurring demand for aid to place them in positions to help themselves.

"The police were rather down on us at first. They thought we would harbor thieves. Now, when any thing happens, they come here first, to look for a boy, and if they find that he has slept here during the night, in nine cases out of ten that fact will clear him.

"In addition to our evening schools we carry on a work for girls in our sewing-machine department. We are running at the rate of about sixty or seventy new girls a month, and are conducting the school to suit those who need our help. We work for every individual who applies to this department for assistance. There is no conversation allowed here, and no opportunity given to make acquaintances. The girls are under constant surveillance while here, and when through with their work, separate. We teach about seven hundred girls in the year. They belong mainly to a class that without our help would go to destruction. We are all the time on the lookout for situations for them in families. We get some hundreds into situations every year of both girls and boys. The girls bring their work, except what is required to begin on — that we furnish. They can make their own dresses, or bring work for their neighbors, or for the little children of the family. We furnish the sewing machine, the room, and a teacher, and then endeavor, in every possible way, to get them employment. After having perfected themselves we give them a diploma. We charge a dollar for full instruction on the machine. Not more than one-tenth pay, however. We trust them on the ground that, although nine out of ten of them will never be able to pay, they will feel better to think that they are paying."

In reference to the management of the lodging-houses, Mr. Douglas further says: "We charge our boys ten cents a night. The term *News boys*, means simply a class of street boys. We record them as they come in. We have a bank. We take all the money they wish to save. It is done up in little packages and handed to the superintendent, and if a boy is inclined to save money we invest it and pay him interest at the rate of seven per cent. There is a considerable number of boys that save money now. They have to buy their clothes and their shoes. As a general rule, as soon as they get five or six dollars, they need a pair of shoes. One of our boys has already \$1,500, which he earned by blacking boots. He came here a wretched drunkard,

and beginning to save was the turning point in his history. As soon as he got \$30, he stopped drinking, and he has not drunk from that day to this. We keep him as a lodger here for the sake of continuing this influence over him. He was only fifteen years old when he came, but was just as confirmed a drunkard as if he had been fifty. There is a boy here now saving at the rate of five dollars a month. He is a boot-black. He began to save the 2d of June. He has already \$35 invested at seven per cent.

"We give the boys a good substantial meal at night; soup, meat, baked beans or beef stew. We give them a good, comfortable bed. We have three bath-tubs. It is a part of our system to see that personal cleanliness is observed. When a boy comes in, he takes his boots off. We always make them wash their feet before going to bed. We do not allow any profane language to be used in the house. A boy that does not obey the rule in this respect, we consider as giving us notice that he wants to leave. We have a gymnasium for the boys. The school occupies the evening from eight to nine o'clock. On Friday nights we have a lecture, a magic lantern entertainment, or something of the kind. We have a singing school during the week. Sunday night we always have singing. We teach it by note. We have a perfectly competent teacher. She is the teacher in our day school. She has studied music for the last ten years. On Sundays we provide such papers as a boy would be interested in reading; stories, any thing that is not immoral in its tendency. Then we have a library of books to which the boys have access evenings, unless it be during school hours. We expect them to attend school.

"The work is all the time going on in this way. The boys are always under the influence of a lady and gentleman in the house. We consider it a prime point that we have a lady sitting at the desk, and the civilizing effect of that we cannot overestimate. A boy will learn more manners dealing with a lady in five minutes, than he would in dealing with a gentleman for a month.

"Each boy pays ten cents a night, and this includes his breakfast the next morning. We charge an additional sum for bread and meat at lunch—five cents. Some boys pay fifteen instead of ten cents. There is no rule about it. If the Superintendent sees that it would benefit the boy to have him pay fifteen cents instead of ten, he makes him pay the fifteen.

"On Sunday nights we always have religious exercises, but it is strictly non-denominational, for all classes in the city come. There is plenty of ground we can occupy without treading on anybody's corns. Still there is a strong religious influence exerted on the boys all the time. We open school at nine o'clock, A. M., and close at three P. M. The two industrial schools are on the same plan. We give the

children a lunch. We always give them bread and syrup, or an additional treat of cake. Our work at Van Brunt street varies only in this, that the number of boys taken in there is not so great as here. There are about 40 newsboy lodgers and 70 children in the school.

"Our system of finding places for the children is this: If a person comes here seeking employment, and wants a place, I enter the name, with other particulars, upon a book. I do the same with persons seeking to employ laborers. I then look my list over, and if I find that there is a likelihood of two parties being suited, I get them together and let them make their own arrangements." In regard to looking after children, when placed out, Mr. Douglas says: "If I do not hear from any child, who is placed out by us, in the course of a year, I write to the parties respecting it. The agreement is that they shall write me. I very rarely get a situation for one child without its leading to the getting of another one for another, and in this way, when I hear from one I usually hear indirectly from three or four others."

The house on Poplar street was carefully inspected. In the work-room were 34 sewing machines. The dining-room was comfortably furnished. The dormitory had double tiers of iron bedsteads, which were provided with husk mattresses. The beds were from two feet one inch to two feet five inches wide. The house throughout was found to be very clean and in order.

It is stated that the number of children brought under the elevating influences of the society, and assisted since its organization, exceeds 16,000, including both girls and boys. Each of these has been in some way practically aided. From the 1st of September, 1866, to November 1, 1875:

5,075 children have been placed in good homes.

8,076 boys have been taken from the streets.

4,792 girls have been taught the use of the sewing machine.

10,869 articles of clothing distributed to children.

341,071 lodgings furnished to street boys.

826,854 meals furnished to the hungry.

\$36,325.75 received from boys in part payment for food and shelter.

\$1,147.36 received from girls in part payment for instruction on sewing machine.

The whole amount expended by the society, from February 1, 1866, to November 7, 1875, was \$227,599.71.

The interest taken in the work by the benevolent citizens of Brooklyn and elsewhere, and the business-like management of its affairs, have kept the society above financial struggles. All its departments are thought to be efficiently conducted, and it is regarded as being unnecessary to commend to public favor a work already so popular, and which has accomplished so large and beneficent results.

THE BROOKLYN HOWARD COLORED ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Brooklyn.

This asylum is located on Dean street, near Troy avenue, Brooklyn. Its object is "to clothe, feed, educate and provide for orphan and homeless colored children." The following is a brief sketch of its history:

"It was formed in the year 1866, under the name of the 'Home for the Children of Freedwomen.' It was designed to relieve those who came north with their children and were unable to obtain situations. The children were declined being received by the Boards of Managers of the New York Asylums, and for several months they were in the house of S. A. Tilman, 104 East Thirteenth street, New York city. There were over twenty children in this gentleman's house for more than six months. Under the advice of Generals O. O. and C. H. Howard and others, the children were at length removed to Brooklyn, and until the organization of The Howard Colored Orphan Asylum, they were maintained by the benevolent and by donations from the Freedmen's Bureau during its existence."

The asylum was incorporated September 7, 1868. It is directed by a Board of Lady Managers with an Advisory Committee of Gentlemen.

On the day of visitation, October 20, it was found to be under the charge of Rev. Wm. F. Johnson, superintendent, assisted by a matron, matron, a treasurer and a teacher, all colored. The teacher is compensated by the Board of Education. A seamstress, nurse, cook, laundress and janitor are also employed. The grounds of the asylum comprise four lots, on which are two frame buildings, one of them new. Children are received between the ages of two and twelve, and placed out on arriving at the latter age.

The following particulars regarding the methods of disposing of the children and the workings of the asylum were furnished by Mr. Johnson: "We first find homes for them and then indenture them. We take a good deal of pains to find good homes for the children and look after them constantly. The parties taking the children pay us \$5 when they take them and \$20 at the end of the year.

"We put this money in a savings bank in Brooklyn, and hold it till the child comes of age. We have at present sixty children under our charge; thirty-two are girls. The capacity of the asylum is for about eighty children. We have never received a dollar from the city or county. We had an appropriation from the State of \$1,500, in 1870. Our active managers are mostly of our own color. Two white ladies were admitted into our board during the past year.

"The girls have always been taught to sew, but not as systematically as I would desire. We have prayers and sabbath school, and a preacher

when we can get one. The institution is supported by voluntary contributions. We are in debt about \$4,000. The new building cost us \$2,500."

In the school room is a good sized organ and a library containing about fifty volumes of sabbath-school reading. The children were mostly young. They appeared to be in good health at the time of visitation. Thirty-four had had the whooping cough during the year. Two deaths had occurred during this period.

On October 1, 1875, the number of children who were orphans was fifteen, half-orphans thirty-eight, who had both parents living, two.

The number of inmates received by this institution, since its organization, is 235. The number received during the year ending October 1, 1875, was fourteen, and the number discharged seven. Of the latter three were returned to parents or guardians, and one left without permission.

The total expenditures of the Asylum for the year amount to \$6,626.16.

This appears to be a meritorious charity, and deserving of a liberal share of public sympathy. The youth coming under its care belong to a class that society cannot afford to neglect, and who are quite susceptible to religious and other elevating influences.

The President of the Board of Trustees makes the following appeal for aid:

"During five years of persistent toil we have overcome much prejudice against our work, vanquished animosities, maintained our credit, and secured the confidence and good will of our fellow citizens. But our pecuniary burdens are greater than we can bear alone. We therefore appeal to the public, in the name of dependent humanity, to bear with us this burdensome debt, and so fulfill the law of Christ. Then shall we have a retreat where the poor and homeless may say, 'Here shall I dwell.'"

THE BROOKLYN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION AND HOME FOR
DESTITUTE CHILDREN,

Brooklyn,

Is situated on Butler street, between Flatbush and Vanderbilt avenues. The Association also sustains four industrial schools in various parts of Brooklyn. It is governed by a Board of Lady Managers, representing all the Protestant churches in the city, and is supported mainly by voluntary contributions and annual fairs.

The Association was organized in April, 1854, and incorporated April 15, 1857, by special act of the Legislature. It first began its

work under the name of the Brooklyn Industrial School Association. But the number of destitute children found wandering in the streets uncared for, uneducated and without a home, "touched that instinct of pity existing in every true woman's heart for helpless childhood, touched that measureless capacity for loving and providing for such homeless and friendless little ones as have not had their due share of mother love and home comforts," and the charity became expanded into the Brooklyn Industrial School Association and Home for Destitute Children. The present edifice was erected in 1861-2. It is a brick building with slate roof, in the Gothic style of architecture.

At the time of visitation, October 16, the immediate charge of the institution was in the hands of Mrs. S. B. McCord, Matron, who, in answer to our inquiries, gave us the following information relative to the workings of the institution: "We have always more boys than girls. We take none under two years of age. We take them from two years up to ten, if boys, and if girls a little older. The average age of the children now in the house is about seven years." With reference to the surroundings of children, Mrs. McCord said: "My idea is that the children should be made to feel that this is a home, so that after they have gone away from us they may still look back upon the time spent here as one of the happiest periods of their lives."

We found here a number of children from the nursery of the Kings County Poor-house, who had been generously received by the Board of Managers at the time that institution was broken up. The Matron, in speaking of them, said: "They have given us a good deal of trouble. We have taken, in all, thirty-eight poor-house children, twenty-five of whom come directly from the nursery department. I was thoroughly discouraged when the large boys came. They would not sing, they would not answer, neither would they pay attention to the scripture lesson at night. It was at times very discouraging."

Passing through the house, the eye everywhere encountered indications of good housekeeping and home feeling. Its nursery comprises two sleeping apartments, with a dining-room between, having two little tables about eighteen or twenty inches from the floor. The nursery is furnished with iron cribs. Nurses sleep in each room. One of these, a young Englishwoman, Miss Simpson, in her faithful attendance upon the children who come from the Kings County Poor-house nursery with sore eyes, was so unfortunate as to have caught the disease herself, and, on the day of our visitation, was just recovering the use of one eye, having, we are informed, narrowly escaped total blindness.

In the hospital we found twelve children suffering from ophthalmia. A number of those who came from the Kings County Poor-house nursery were, at the time of their admission, suffering from that disease.

All of these had recovered except two, who were among the twelve. The cure of the Poor-house children, however, was not effected without the inoculation of several of the children of the house with the disease, and at the time of our visit the other ten sufferers belonged to the house. They were, however, all getting better. The room was cheerful and clean. A fire was burning in the grate, to take off the chill and to facilitate ventilation. The walls were brightened with pictures and illuminated cards, all gifts of the Sunday schools of the city.

The children seemed to have every attention, and if cleanliness, comfort and motherly care could restore these little sufferers to health, we felt sure that they would not have long to be numbered with the sick.

The convalescent room of the hospital department was very neat and was, we were informed, furnished by the Sunday schools of Brooklyn. The room is large, with windows on three sides, affording good sun exposure. The walls were hung with illuminated cards and pictures of home life. Beside each bed was a bright colored rug, with some design to please the juvenile fancy worked upon it. Every child here has its own comb, brush, and washing cloth and towel. These, together with the sponge and bowl, are kept at the head of each bed in a little fancy rack, having a pretty picture in the centre. There were in the room fifteen beds. Every thing, apart from its own intrinsic loveliness, had a story which invested it with an individual interest.

Here were memorial gifts, thank-offerings, presents from little babies, little expressions of affection from the children of the rich toward their less favored sisters, that warmed the heart, as one contemplated them. In reference to these memorials, the corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. Vanderbilt, says:

"Truly 'the children are learning the first two words of the Lord's prayer.'

"There are gifts in this hospital which were purchased as mementoes of little ones whose cribs at home stand empty; others were sent us as thank-offerings for spared life, from the abundant gratitude of anxious mothers' hearts; so that, to those knowing the story, each token of beauty or comfort has the added charm of being some touching memorial gift.

"Six little girls from Annapolis, Maryland, gave, through Miss Meachem, the first gift of ten dollars for the hospital.

"One baby, the only little pet in her home, gives the chairs beside each bed.

"Wise little Carrie furnishes a crib, and desires to have it called 'The Lily of the Valley,' as if sheltering leaves enfolding a pale flower had suggested to her poetic nature the fitness of the emblem."

The dormitories were sweet and clean, and were furnished with

single iron bedsteads two feet six inches wide. Straw beds were used. Each bed had two sheets, two blankets and a comfortable. The straw is changed three times a year, and oftener if necessary.

A school is held on the premises under the Department of Public Instruction. The teacher is employed by the Association. The children are carefully instructed at stated times in the scriptures; family prayers are conducted every day by the matron, and on Sunday afternoon a Sunday school is held on the premises.

The girls, as soon as they are old enough, are taught to sew, and are set to do certain light duties pertaining to housework suited to their years. Twice a week those who are old enough sew with the seamstress. The boys are also trained to make themselves generally useful.

The bath-room is in the basement. A large vat stands in the center of the room, a little elevated. It is about four by six feet, with a six inch inclined shelf at the upper edge. A box of soap is kept on each of the four corners. Crash towels, two feet eight inches long, are kept on numbered hooks. Bathing and washing cloths are also used. In this room is a convenient foot bath. The top is flush with the floor, and when not in use is covered with a lid. It is supplied with hot and cold water. Around the upper margin of the bathing vat is a perforated pipe for the children to wash in running water. Any child having a diseased scalp is kept away from the others. "By watching the children myself," says Mrs. McCord, "we do not have any trouble with that disease. The heads of the children are fine-combed every day, and thoroughly washed every week with carbolic soap."

The children were going to supper as we arrived. After assembling at the table they repeated the following form of grace taught them by the matron: "Our Father which art in Heaven, give us this day our daily bread and bless it to our use for Christ's sake, Amen." The children, after the meal, returned thanks in the following words: "O Lord we thank Thee for this food and for all Thy other gifts, in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen."

The dietary adopted is generous and nutritious, the children being, we were assured, in no way stinted. Their appearance corroborated the assertion, as well as the gleeful testimony of "Frank," a former inmate of the Kings County Poor-house nursery. The surroundings of this boy and his associates, as compared with their condition as seen when in the forbidding precincts of the Kings County Poor-house nursery, awakened the most grateful emotions toward all those who had been instrumental in delivering them from their former degradation.

Mrs. McCord, on being asked if she found any difference in the children now being sent by the Commissioners of Public Charities,

from those admitted into the institution at the time of the breaking up of the Kings County Poor-house nursery, said that there was a marked improvement and that they appeared to be the same as other children belonging to the dependent class.

In alluding to the debasing influence of the alms-house on children, Mrs. McCord said: "I had a little boy here from the alms-house who was morally depraved by association with the bad company of the place. He would cry when I talked with him about things he had heard bad men and bad women say when he was in the alms-house. We sent him out west. He has written me a good letter since."

In regard to the disposition of the children, the matron says: "We have applications for our girls every day in the week. Our boys we send west by means of the New York Children's Aid Society. Mr. Brace secures good homes for them. We think he always succeeds well. We do not put any of our girls in the city, but into families on Long Island and other country places. The applicants must bring references from the pastor of the church to which they belong. The mother of the family is required to make the application. We have a cautious committee who see to the placing out of children, and applications must be made at a regular meeting of the Board. We hear from our children frequently after they are placed out.

The subordinate force employed in this institution consists of a teacher, seamstress, two care-takers, a cook, two chamber-maids, three laundresses, a baker, two nurses, and one dining-room woman, all of whom are carefully selected with reference to their fitness for being associates for children, and receive good pay. The inspection made of the Home was very thorough, and the result very satisfactory. The bright, orderly, homelike spirit which pervaded every part of the institution, bespoke the unselfish and constant attention of the ladies engaged in the work.

The number of children in the Home, October 1, 1875, was one hundred and seven. Of these, four were orphans, twenty-four half orphans, and seventy-nine had both parents living. Forty-two were of native, and sixty-five of foreign parentage. The number received during the year was sixty-five; the number discharged, one hundred and thirty-six. Of the latter, four were placed out by adoption, twenty-eight indentured, and sixty-eight returned to parents or guardians.

The amount of its invested funds is \$5,000. Its total expenditures during the past fiscal year was \$29,482.82. About \$8,000 of this was for indebtedness upon real estate.

As further illustrating the aims and workings of the Home, we quote again from the report of the Corresponding Secretary:

"In a healthy plant, growth and expansion are the natural results of life, and no less is growth the normal condition of that charity

which has its root in the exigency of the time. As, after industrial schools had been established, the Home was needed for such as had no shelter for the night, even had they been able to attend school during the day, so in time there came to be many in the Home, who, from various causes, were left permanently in care of the Association; and it was necessary that for these good homes should be found. The procuring of such, and placing out children, either by indenture or adoption, form an important — we had almost said the most important — part of the work."

* * * * *

"While our Home has proved itself a happy asylum for the class it was designed to relieve, while we have comfortably clothed, fed and instructed the many little ones intrusted to our care, we should not be acting in accordance with our views, as to the training of our children, did we regard it as a permanent residence for any of them; and we have never hesitated to exchange institution life for a Christian family home whenever circumstances rendered this possible.

We give the following as the number of children who, since the year 1860, have been furnished with homes, and, as far as possible, the results:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Number of children for whom homes have been provided | 168 |
| Of these there are doing well..... | 108 |
| Have not given much promise of future usefulness..... | 10 |
| Have improved and are improving | 4 |
| Have not been heard from for some years | 11 |
| Are reported as either lazy, careless, or untruthful, but not positively bad | 10 |
| Have returned to their relatives..... | 13 |
| Have lost trace of..... | 6 |
| Have died..... | 6 |

Of the eleven reported as not heard from recently, and the six of whom all trace is lost, we would say that most of them are of age, have married and settled in life, and, in moving from place to place, have failed to send us their address. As they are able to help themselves, it has not been necessary that we should continue in communication with them; and it is owing to this that we have lost trace of many.

The industrial schools of the Association referred to are located as follows:

- School No. 1. Concord street, opposite the junction of Prince street.
- School No. 2. Fourth street, near Smith street.

School No. 3. At the head of Butler street.

School No. 4. No. 602 Warren street.

The following particulars of the schools are taken from the last report of the Corresponding Secretary:

The schools established by this Association recognize those wants of the children which could not possibly be met and provided for in the ward schools, and to this they owe their success.

In regard to the means adopted to dispense the benefits of the schools among the classes needing them, the same lady remarks, "There are other than compulsory laws; in the battle of life, where might is often more potent than right, women have learned by experience that by the strength of love, and the power of gentleness, they can conquer; with these, as the weapons which they can wield to most advantage, they have entered upon this conflict of light against darkness."

Many of the children in School No. 4 are Germans, others are Swedes, and some few are Norwegians, but these have all learned to speak and read English, under the instruction of the present teacher, who is very efficient.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Number of children in attendance during the year..... | 706 |
| " " at present on the roll-book | 333 |
| " " who can read..... | 223 |
| " " who are learning to write..... | 160 |
| " " who are studying geography | 39 |
| " " who are studying arithmetic | 71 |
| Number of new garments given out during the year..... | 2,820 |
| " " shoes | 490 |
| " of meals given during the year | 40,167 |

We should feel we had hardly represented the gentle Christ-like spirit which actuates the workers in this worthy charity did we omit to embody the closing paragraph from the last report of the Corresponding Secretary:

"As we look from the windows of the Home into the adjacent public park, we remember that a few years since there were rough sand-hills and stony fields where now we see the beauty of soft, green slopes and fragrant flowers; and we are encouraged to feel that if God will thus reward the work of cultivation in the physical world, He will none the less cause beauty to follow the work of culture undertaken at His command in the hearts of little children."

We finished our visit to this Home, with the impression left upon the mind that it might be truly said of any unfortunate child who had drifted in its homelessness into this sweet haven of rest, that its "lines had fallen in pleasant places."

THE BROOKLYN NURSERY.

Brooklyn:

Is located at 66 Prospect place, between Carlton and Vanderbilt avenues. The Nursery was first incorporated under the general law as the "Flatbush Avenue Industrial School and Nursery." The building occupied, formerly a private mansion, has a large and pleasant yard, shaded with trees in its rear, and is well furnished. The acquisition of this valuable property is largely attributable to a gift from one of the ladies interested in the work.

The affairs of the Nursery are directed by a Board of Lady Managers and an Advisory Committee of Gentlemen. Its immediate charge is committed to a matron. The paid force of the establishment, in addition to the matron, consists of an assistant matron, cook and laundress.

On the day of visitation, October 16, there were twenty-eight inmates of the Nursery. One was an infant, five months old, whose parents had quarreled and separated. Another was a bright little boy who, through an unfortunate circumstance attending his birth, was unable to use his hip joints. His mother was said to be very destitute. The father of one of the children was in the penitentiary; the father of another had left a family of five entirely destitute by his neglect. The history of yet another child was thus given: Its father had deserted his family, leaving the mother with two children unprovided for. The father of one was at sea, and its mother was employed as a wet nurse in a private family. The parents of another were both living, but its father had been sick for a long time, and its mother was out of work. Several additional cases, similar in character, were encountered, all disclosing unhappy phases of social life, and showing the need of such institutions as this for the care of the young.

In the dining room the children were eating their dinner at the time of visitation. The room was furnished with two or three little tables, eighteen inches high, covered with white enamel cloth, little arm chairs and tiny plates and dishes to correspond. Many of the plates were colored and pictured with letters of the alphabet. The little folks seemed to be very happy over their food, which was highly nutritious, and suited to their years.

Many of the children coming under the care of the ladies at the Nursery are surrendered to the institution. "For these babes," the Secretary, Mrs. Aten, says, "the Managers have sought the best of homes, and their desire has been fully realized; for not only has the sunshine of love streamed into the cloudy beginning of the dear babe's life, and the song of 'Home, Sweet Home,' been put into their

mouths, but the lonely hearts of the heretofore empty homes have also thankfully basked in this same sunshine, and echoed the new and gladsome song of the babe."

As showing the nature of the work and the circumstances under which it appeals to the sympathies of those engaged in it, we further quote substantially the language used by the Secretary: "Varied are the pictures that stand forth in our experience like living illustrations of heart-joy and sorrow.

"The first we could show represents a day in winter. Bright and cold is the air without. In the open doorway of the Nursery stands a father with a motherless babe of ten months in his strong arms. He bears also in his hands the bundle of little clothing, and the can of milk purchased after the sudden death of the mother. 'What will you have, my good man?' said the cheery voice of the Matron. 'A home for my boy; the mother is taken from me and the babe is left. I know not how to care for him as he needs. I am a stranger in these parts, and know not where to go, but a kind man at the ship told me, when I landed, that good ladies had provided a home and shelter for just such as mine, and so I have brought my boy to you.' A welcome was given the little one, and the sad heart of the father cheered.

"Here is a mother and her babe, the one bearing traces of grief upon her face, the other frolicking in joyous ignorance of all grief. The place which once bore the name of home has been broken up by the intemperance of the father, and nothing remains for the mother but to first find a home for her child, and, if possible, be accepted as nurse under the same roof. When assured such a home awaits both herself and babe, a look of thankful joy takes the place of deep sorrow clouding her countenance.

"A sad, sad picture is that of a father with his little one clinging to him with that trusting love which it is the mother's privilege to receive from her child—but where is the mother? In a darkened cell; brought there by her own wrong-doing, for in hardened recklessness she has drunk herself into a state of utter forgetfulness of the dear child of her bosom, and the care she should give the babe must be sought for at the hands of strangers.

"Again, a mother must leave her babe and busy herself elsewhere to support it, but the consciousness that loving care will be given her child, helps her to bear the separation which must be made for the time.

"In another picture we see the shadows of evening drawing near, the snow is falling fast, and like a mantle is covering the form of a little babe lying on the frozen ground in the court-yard of the Nursery; its cries reach the ears of the inmates, and the deserted babe is soon within the warm shelter of the building. Shall we close our

doors and bar our hearts? Oh, no! life still flutters in the little frame, and the eye of Him who numbereth the hairs of our head, sees us as we follow His command. 'Inasmuch as ye have done it unto the least of these little ones, ye have done it unto me.' And chide not the mother too harshly, for the storm of sorrow in her heart may be fiercer and bleaker than the storm which beats upon her innocent babe, and in her despair it is warmed with but one comforting thought — my child is cared for.

"Look once again — three pictures so sweet, touching, and full of meaning. They tell of the mother and father parted from the child they love, called to the home above — the kind friends, tender and true to their charge, bringing the babes to the only temporary home which offers itself. Think you we say, 'Nay, no room, no place!' and turn away? God forbid! The very loneliness of the little ones gives them a passport to our care and protection. The months go by, and one of these little strangers becomes the pet of the Nursery. The others are soon taken to fill happy homes with more joy by their sweet presence, and to be always precious mementoes of a work which, to many of us who toil in this garden of benevolence, seems fragrant with the blossoms of success, gathered from a field of charity God himself hath blessed."

The following information regarding the history and workings of this interesting charity are kindly furnished from the same source: "In the beginning of our work and in the heat of summer, we found ourselves with plenty of work to do, a houseful of little ones, a very slim treasury, a small but earnest band of workers; fortunately, none of the sort to 'give up.' We had numberless applications, and though enabled to assist a great many, the greater number we were forced to refuse. Every year finds our work widening and our working-band re-inforced and strengthened, and we are daily assured that our nursery has proved a shelter and home to many little babes and weary women, an asylum to the heart-broken and homeless ones, and a resting place to the storm-tossed and innocent babe. Many a woman returns to thank us face to face; others write their thanks, and these mothers and the fathers also, we do feel, appreciate the kindnesses extended to them and their little ones through the nursery. We close no doors to the mother, who comes before us with her babe on her bosom, begging us to take her and it into the Home, as we are sure there is enough of *true* womanhood left in her nature to *save* her, when she evinces this desire to maintain and support her child. Many of the little ones have parents who are struggling outside to earn daily bread and support for their children, and we have been surprised to see how many of this class apply to us, as they find it impossible to keep at their employment or labor and care for their infants at the same time.

The parents take pride in being able to pay even the small sums asked for their children's maintenance, and in their weekly visits evince pleasure and satisfaction with their condition. Once in a while, among the many who become members of the household, we find some very hardened characters, but as a whole, the women so conduct themselves as to form a *well ordered* company, and many of them, after being with us for a long while, return to thank us, or if at a distance, write to us of their gratefulness for the kindnesses extended them.

"Since April, 1871, we have had in our nursery over 508 babies and about 215 women. We average about forty children. There have been sixty-four deaths.

"Our household is a changeable one, some of the children remain but a week, others till past the age to be under our charge. Many of the babes, though not sick when admitted, are in a sadly neglected condition and low state, and fail to thrive even with the best of wet-nursing. We have, as before mentioned, had the pleasure of adopting a great number of babes, and as we learn from time to time of the welfare of each of these, we are rejoiced to feel that our nursery was the medium of this mutual happiness.

"We have never received any very large sums except that of Mrs E. T. Pell, mentioned in the fourth annual report. But the sums and donations received have been given with such a willing spirit that they seem very precious to us, and in the aggregate have kept our treasury from being wholly empty. The reception of the appropriation money from the city was warmly welcomed and appreciated.

"I would add that, financially, we have been prospered from year to year, but only through personal and individual efforts on the part of the managers. Our expenses appear and *are* very great, but our household is of that nature requiring the best of food — plenty of milk also for the elder children. The women need this nourishing food or they cannot retain their places as wet-nurses.

"The physicians are *Homœopathists*, and are constant and faithful to their charge."

The number of children received during the year was one hundred and forty-four. The institution has no invested fund. Its total indebtedness in October 1, 1875, was \$9,184.33; of this \$7,700 was upon real estate. Its total expenditures were \$15,571.59, of which \$7,693.40 was paid to reduce real estate indebtedness.

A peculiar feature of this work is that it includes a class who, but for this help, would be inmates of the poor-house, and thus sink into dependence and degradation. It rescues from criminality, builds up character, and breaks off the line of hereditary pauperism, and is a remedy applied at the very fountain-source of the evils which undermine society. It is a work, in fact, strictly belonging to the public to do, and is therefore deserving the support of the entire community;

but it is one that cannot be carried on under any public administration of charity, because, to be effectual, it must be inspired and directed by Christian benevolence.

THE CHURCH CHARITY FOUNDATION OF LONG ISLAND.

Brooklyn.

This well-known institution is located on Albany avenue, corner of Herkimer street, in the city of Brooklyn. It was designed to provide a home for indigent persons of both sexes, including married persons too old or enfeebled to maintain themselves; also for orphans and destitute children. It was incorporated March 13, 1851, having been organized the February previous. The Foundation is under the patronage of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Long Island. Its financial affairs are controlled by a Board of Managers, and a Board of Lady Associates take charge of its general concerns. The immediate charge and management of its several departments are committed to the Sisters of St. John, of the Protestant Episcopal Church, called also Deaconesses, seven of whom were engaged at date of October 31. Of their zeal in the work, the lady managers bear the following testimony:

"It is quite proper that we speak, and with warmth too, of our perfect satisfaction in having given the entire internal management of the House to the Deaconesses. The perfect success of the same, and the beautiful spirit evinced under all circumstances, have not only elicited the approbation and commendation of all, but have so completely won our hearts, that words are fulsome. We had long felt the impossibility of carrying on the work as it should be, without such care, and had almost begun to feel it would not come, although we had earnestly sought it, when the providence of God granted us the blessing. While we may not be personal, we may say the very right persons have been given us for their respective positions. We thank God for them. We accept them as His gift, and earnestly pray Him that each one of them may long be spared us."

The Foundation now embraces a home for the aged, a general hospital and an orphan house for boys and girls. The grounds occupied extend from Albany avenue to Atlantic avenue.

Although the home for the aged and the hospital were both visited, with very gratifying results, our attention was particularly directed to the orphan house, which contained, on the date of visitation, seventy-five children. This work is being enlarged by the erection of a new building, which will increase the capacity of the orphan home to 150. This enlargement to the home was greatly needed, as will be seen by the language used in an appeal made by the Board of Lady Associates the early part of last year. The Secretary, Miss P. S. Van Nostrand,

says: "We often feel if loving parents, who cannot find it in their hearts to deny their children the smallest gratification, could but see the sad faces of the widows who entreat us to care for their destitute and suffering children, we would be saved from the sinks of misery here and a hereafter we dare not permit ourselves to think of. These children (or some of them) that are turned away will help to make up the lists of vagrants and prisoners in a few years. We cannot safely admit more than seventy-five children, and for the few vacancies there are many applications. How small a sacrifice on the part of each Christian parent would save many a child from degradation. Who has made their children to differ from those knocking at our doors?"

This wing was almost ready for occupation at the time of our visit. A debt was necessarily incurred in its erection, but this disadvantage will doubtless be more than compensated by the increased usefulness of the institution, commending it still more to the liberal support of the public.

In addition to a good secular and religious education, the children are taught habits of industry. A sewing school is held twice a week; the girls are trained in housework, and a few of both sexes learn the business of type-setting, which is conducted on the premises; \$2,000 was cleared last year in the printing department. This, however, does not take into account a large amount of voluntary service rendered in carrying on the business.

In the reception-room is a well-filled book-case, purchased out of a sum given to the institution by a benevolent lady as a memorial to her husband.

The sitting-room, or what is called the "social room," is a very pleasant apartment, the tables being covered with crimson cloth. The walls were hung with pictures; flowers filled the air with perfume, and the warbling of canary birds with song. The children appeared to be very happy. "They have not," says the Sister, "the least fear. They come in and say 'such a one took my button,' and 'such a one took my marble.' I could not live here if we had not a home atmosphere."

In the school-room long stems of ivy were trailed on the walls, back of the dais, and pictures were hung around the room. There was an evidence of good taste in the arrangements of this as well as other apartments of the asylum, betokening refining influences, which must exert a beneficial effect upon the children. The room was full of little plants belonging to the children. "They are," says the Sister, "passionately fond of flowers. Everybody has a garden. They plant seeds in them, and are delighted to see them grow. One little boy, the first time he saw a favorite uncle, after being here, wanted to borrow five cents to buy some pumpkin seeds."

The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads, having spring slats. The walls are hung with bright pictures, the frames of which are graced with ivy. A present from the children in the diocese, in the form of a nice seat, stands beside each bed. The rooms are supplied with toys and other objects of childish interest. Ample provision is made for bathing. Each child has its own towel and "ophthalmia is unknown here."

On the 1st of October there were thirteen orphans, fifty-seven half orphans, and two children who had both parents living, in the institution. Two of the children were of native and seventy were of foreign parentage. Eight were partially supported by parents or friends, and sixty-four wholly by the institution.

The invested funds of the Foundation amount to \$28,750; its total indebtedness to \$31,400. Its total expenditure during the fiscal year ending October 1, 1875, was \$29,862.05. Of this, \$6,397.65 was expended for buildings and improvements, and \$4,844.81 to reduce indebtedness.

The Foundation, besides its ordinary work, publishes a monthly paper called the "Helping Hand." This is intended to find its way into families with a view to elevate and instruct both old and young. It also acts as a medium of communication between the Foundation and its numerous friends.

The efficiency of this institution is doubtless largely attributable to the zeal with which those connected with it are inspired. The beautiful system maintained by the Sisters in the management of its internal affairs is so marked as to give to it something like the sacred character of a home. The beneficial effects growing out of this association of children with persons of cultivation, who are imbued with pure religious sentiment, are so great as to be beyond measurement.

CONVENT AND HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

Brooklyn.

This institution, incorporated December 23, 1868, was founded by a few Sisters belonging to the Order of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd. The Order was established in 1651. The Mother House, which is at Angers in France, has 120 branches in different parts of the world, where the Religious labor in reforming the most abandoned of their sex.

The following information, regarding the beginning of the work in Brooklyn, has been kindly furnished:

"The Sisters came to Brooklyn at the solicitation of the Right Reverend John Laughlin, D. D., and some of the principal gentlemen of the place; and, in consideration of the urgency of the case, as no house of refuge existed, to afford a place of protection to those who might wish to reform their lives among the poor unfortunate girls who may be found in such numbers in the streets of every great city, they were induced to enter upon the task without resources, trusting to a generous public to aid in this benevolent project for the general good of society. Dependent entirely upon their own exertion, the life of the Sisters in laying this foundation has been a continual struggle; but they have felt themselves indemnified for their labors by the progress of the penitents, which has been highly satisfactory. Their characters have become elevated and improved; and their habits of idleness have been overcome by the teaching of industries, which will fit them for becoming useful members of society. They usually come utterly ignorant."

The institution is situated on the corner of Atlantic and Rockaway avenues. The building is a brick structure of four stories, standing on a stone basement.

The work in which thirty Sisters are now engaged was begun on Henry street; afterward it was removed to the corner of East New York and Atlantic avenue, and, in the month of July last, the new building was first occupied.

In the workroom for penitents, on the day of visitation, October 18, there were about thirty young girls engaged in making shirts and dresses, and quite a large number of sewing machines were in operation. Perfect order prevailed. About 150 of the Penitent class were in the house. Of another class, called the Preservation, there were about ninety-five inmates under sixteen. It is contemplated having a third class called Magdalens, who take vows to lead a religious life. All entering this Order are first required to take three vows for stated periods to afford time for reflection upon the final step about to be taken, and to afford the Sisters ample time to test their sincerity. After five years of a novitiate they are allowed to make their perpetual vow. The inmates of the institution were partly committed by the magistrates and partly self-committed. The Lady Superior says: "We cannot refuse admittance to any one who comes and shows signs of repentance." Few of the preservation class are under commitment. They are sometimes the children of drunken parents, and often are children who, although having good parents, show inclinations to evil. Those committed by the magistrates must remain their allotted time, and have opportunity to continue in the institution, after its expiration. But children sent there by parents can be removed at any time.

A school is held on the premises, where reading, writing and arithmetic are taught.

Young children are instructed in finishing shirts and in hand sewing, after which they learn to use the machine.

The building is wainscoted throughout, except the dormitories. It is heated by steam, lighted by gas, and well ventilated with flues in the walls. The windows have inside blinds. The building has a capacity for five hundred inmates, and cost between \$116,000 and \$117,000. The grounds comprise sixty lots, and take up an entire block.

The total number of inmates, both children and adults, received during the year, was three hundred and forty. The number remaining in the institution on October 1, 1875, including both children and adult inmates, was two hundred and fifty-five.

The total expenditures during the year amount to \$86,573.86. Of this, \$64,787.07 was expended upon real estate, and for reducing indebtedness. The indebtedness of the institution, upon real estate, is \$91,000, and for other indebtedness, \$6,000. Its cash investments are about \$5,000.

It is thought that the Sisters engaged in this peculiar and difficult work are conducting it with great zeal, and that their efforts to reform the class which engages their attention, and to make them useful to society, is attended with satisfactory results. The class coming under their care is, perhaps, the most difficult of any of the offending to deal with, and the experience of those so largely engaged in it as this sisterhood, leads them to think that the most efficacious means of reform lies in the implanting of positive religious convictions.

CONVENT OF THE SISTERS OF MERCY, IN BROOKLYN.

Brooklyn.

The organization of this institution took place March 18, 1855, and its incorporation March 8, 1865. It is situated on 273 Willoughby avenue, corner of Classon avenue, and is under the charge of Mother Mary Vincent Hare, and thirty-two Sisters of Mercy. Its objects, as set forth in its certificate of incorporation, are:

1st. To establish, maintain and conduct a house of protection, in which young women of good character may be protected and supported until situations may be provided for them.

2d. To visit the sick poor, and to supply them gratuitously with nourishment, clothing and other necessities.

3d. To give poor girls useful and proper instruction, without charge.

4th. To establish and maintain a free school for the general education of female children, and also an industrial school, in which young girls may be taught various branches of industry, without charge.

The following interesting sketch is furnished by one familiar with its early history and struggles: "When we purchased our present property it was in the neighborhood of only a few small frame houses. We defrayed half the expense of grading the hill, which stood in place of the avenue upon which our building now fronts. We purchased eleven lots, and the building was at once contracted for and completed at an expense of \$60,000. On the 3d of December, 1862, before it was completed, thirteen Sisters moved in with a handful of furniture, one sewing machine, and \$100, which was the sum total of our possessions. The following month we commenced work in our industrial school. Our first work table was of our own manufacture, and composed of three boards placed across two horses left by the workmen on the premises. In March, we borrowed \$180 to purchase desks for our own select school, which we were about to open. This succeeded very well, and with the proceeds from it and the use of twenty sewing machines, furnished us on credit, we were enabled to admit into the institution orphan and destitute children, whose number rapidly increased. During this period we were constantly in straitened circumstances, but Divine Providence watched over our struggles, guided us through our difficulties, and, we believe, will yet raise us above the charity of the public, and enable us to discharge fully the works of our vocation. This will not be fully done until our whole time and labor are given to the sick and poor, and to the care of our hospital, which we contemplate building as soon as funds are available. Since the original purchase, eighteen adjoining lots have been added, and it is upon these we hope to erect the hospital, where poor girls, who are without parents or homes (when stricken down by disease), may find a shelter and tender care."

At the date of visitation, October 18, there were in the sewing-room about sixty girls working for the stores. About fifty sewing machines were in operation. The Sister said they were never out of work. The stores kept them constantly employed. Although the compensation was low, yet they were so circumstanced as to be able to work to advantage even with small remuneration. The ages of the children here ranged from ten to seventeen. They appeared neat, having their hair nicely tied back with ribbons. Their dresses were tidy and comfortable, but not uniform. The Sister remarked on this point, "We never dress them alike."

The girls, on leaving, are able to earn from \$12 to \$14 a week. Some of the girls were making cuffs, some hemming skirts and others

putting in sleeves and joining them. The girls have each a daily task assigned them. This is regulated by the Sister superintending, and varied according to the capabilities of each. There was manifest, in this department, a pleasing naturalness of manner, indicating a home-like feeling and confidential relations between the children and their superiors.

Another room contained about seventy girls, ranging in age from two and a-half years to twelve. They were seated on benches and engaged in sewing. Two of these little ones showed us, with girlish pride, some of the button-holes they had worked, which were certainly creditable, considering their years. A few of the children in this room were from the Kings County Poor-house. Their clean and comely appearance was in marked contrast to the former condition of children as seen in that institution.

In the day school were about 620 children. On a gallery in one of the class-rooms about 180 little girls were seated, dressed in an array of bright colors, and looking like a parterre of flowers in which scarlet, pink and green were conspicuous. A few of the asylum children were intermingled with the day scholars. The latter seemed to show, in their animated looks and manners, contact with the activities of life, and the association of the asylum children with them was thought by the Sisters to have a happy effect.

Fourteen domestics are employed. The dormitories are furnished with single bedsteads of iron. Hair and straw mattresses are used.

In the infirmary department we found one of the asylum children suffering from sore eyes, which she had contracted from one of those sent from the Kings County Poor-house. Here were also several girls from that institution suffering from ophthalmia.

A very interesting feature about this institution is the thoughtful provision made for the children about to leave. "Each child," says the Sister, "gets her trunk well furnished with under-clothing, a set of toilet articles, and in addition to her stock of plain dresses, a very nice Sunday dress with a shawl and cloak. The girl who conducts herself properly during her stay with us, gets also a silver medal on leaving."

The children are received at from three to fourteen years of age, and kept till they are eighteen. "By that time," says the Sister, "they are able to take care of themselves and leave the institution with a recommendation that will entitle them to good situations."

The number of children in the institution October 1, who were orphans, was sixty; half-orphans, seventy-seven; who had both parents living, twenty. Eighty-five of these were from the County of Kings; forty from New York, and the remainder from other counties. Twelve were partially supported by parents or friends, nineteen by public authorities, and one hundred and twenty-six by the institution.

The number of children received during the year was forty-two; the number discharged, twenty-four. The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending October 1, 1875, was \$27,163.02, about \$4,000 of this was for reducing its indebtedness, while for provisions, clothing, fuel and light, \$12,120.12 were expended. The total indebtedness is \$71,000; of this sum, \$57,000 is upon real estate. It has no invested fund.

Quite a large garden is connected with the institution from which the vegetables, excepting potatoes, are supplied. Seven milch cows are kept, which afford a quantity of pure fresh milk.

A pleasant feature of the institution was found to be in its highly cultivated grounds in the rear, within which were abundance of flowering plants, vines, and shady bowers for sitting or promenading. The rear walls of the main edifice and the inner façade of the two wings were covered with a drapery of ivy, the whole soothing the eye, while bringing to the mind a sense of retirement from the world hardly reconcilable with its nearness.

The inspection of the house gave abundant evidence of cleanliness and order throughout. The glass of the windows shone like crystal, and every object upon which the eye rested betokened care. The surroundings and influences to which the children are here subjected, it would seem, must be highly elevating and prove efficacious in forming womanly character.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION OF BROOKLYN, EASTERN DISTRICT.

Brooklyn.

This institution is one of the many illustrations of large beneficent results from small beginnings, growing out of woman's faith and Christian zeal. We find the following interesting scrap of history connected with the commencement of this work: A lady, resident of Williamsburgh, who had become deeply impressed with the degraded condition of many of the children of the extremely poor, and regarding their reformation as the most hopeful avenue of charity, personally solicited the sum of \$600 for the purpose of organizing a work for the benefit of this class. A meeting was called for those interested in the enterprise, which was held February 20, 1854. An organization was effected, and plans discussed for furthering the objects in view.

The primary object that the benevolent ladies had in view in the founding of the school was "to provide a place where those children whose parents were too poor and degraded to send them to the public school, might be taught to read and write, and be at least partially clothed and fed."

The school was opened on North Second street, Williamsburgh, March 7, 1854, with eleven scholars. It was composed largely at first of colored children. It soon outgrew its original quarters, and was removed to larger rooms. During the first seven years of its existence between seven and eight hundred children were instructed and furnished daily with a good, substantial, warm dinner of bread, soup or meat. Large quantities of clothing were also distributed.

The Association was incorporated March 26, 1860. Its finances are controlled by a Board of Trustees composed of gentlemen. Its general affairs are directed by a Board of Lady Managers, made up of members representing about twenty Protestant churches in the city. Its domestic affairs are in the immediate charge of a matron, and the educational department is under the care of a competent lady teacher.

The Industrial School was carried on as a Day Home for fifteen years. But during the latter part of 1869 the ladies decided to open, in connection with the school, a Home, for the purpose of caring for the children who were without other shelter than station-houses. With this end in view, an appeal was made to the Legislature for aid, resulting in an appropriation of \$10,000. By means of this grant, and other funds raised for the purpose, the present building, with seven lots of land, was purchased.

In the winter of 1869, the Home was opened at its present location, 141 South Third street. It is a plain three-story building, having a basement. During the past three years it has been under the care of Mrs. Sanxay, Matron.

"We began," says one of the ladies, "with one boy, whose mother could not support him or herself. She left him with us while she went to a situation. She was never able to do any thing for her son. After caring for him for a time he was committed to our keeping by the Mayor, in compliance with our request. We afterward provided him a home in this State where he still remains, and gives promise of becoming a good citizen." Since this small beginning the Managers have had more applications for admissions than they could accommodate. The Home is not only always full, but is often overcrowded.

The first Directress, Mrs. B. H. Howell, says in regard to the children received: "We take all classes of children between the ages of two and ten years, orphans, half-orphans and the neglected, who are worse off than if they had no parents, in consequence of their habits of vice or intemperance. Some agree to pay a small sum toward the board of their children, which is accepted that they may feel less like dependents. This agreement to pay is, however, rarely fulfilled on the part of the parents."

To guard against infectious diseases every child is examined by the Attending Physician before admission to the institution. On this

point it is stated: "A number of our children were affected with 'skin diseases,' and sore eyes or ophthalmia. The doctor gave great attention to their medical treatment, advised the giving of a more generous diet to those suffering from these complaints, and also their separation from the other children. This advice was strictly followed, though in the latter case with extreme difficulty, on account of our limited accommodations. Great care was observed to have the nurses use separate cloths and towels, and clean water in washing the eyes of each child whose eyes were sore. In a comparatively short time the children were entirely cured. At the present time we have not a case of sore or even weak eyes among our one hundred and nineteen children."

The Secretary of the institution, Mr. S. C. Hanford, in a late report in regard to the school, says: "The children have been thoroughly drilled in the elementary branches of an English education, accompanied by writing, singing and recitation of Scripture, and in all these exercises gratifying progress has been made.

"Many mothers leave their infants in the school-room during the day that they may earn their daily bread. This adds much perplexing care to our teacher, but to refuse such assistance to these mothers is oftentimes to thrust starvation into their homes. Practical instruction is our continued aim and object. The boys attend to the various house errands; the girls assist in the ordinary work. Close attention is paid to their habits and manners. Cleanliness of person is required and obedience enjoined. The sewing committee meet with the girls at the close of each session for instruction in plain sewing. Sixty-five have been taught. Some of them sew very neatly. All are teachable and eager to learn. The girls of the Home made, during the vacation, one dozen large sheets, besides sewing a quantity of carpet rags. They also piece bed-quilts with pieces of muslin, calico, etc., sent in by friends.

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| The <i>Teacher's Journal</i> shows the number of pupils instructed during the year ending October 1, 1875..... | 323 |
| Number of pupils on register at present date..... | 88 |
| Number of pupils dismissed to public schools..... | 34 |
| Number of pupils who have been taught to read..... | 121 |
| Number of pupils who have been taught to write..... | 62 |
| Number of pupils who have been taught to sew..... | 63 |
| Number of pupils provided with situations..... | 40 |

Of the eighty-eight children who are inmates of the Home or attending the school, twenty-five are supported wholly by the institution,

and sixty-three partially by parents or friends. About half the number are of native and half of foreign parents. Twenty-eight are orphans, twenty-two half-orphans and thirty-eight have both parents living.

The Matron furnishes the following statistics relating to the inmates of the Home for the past year :

| | |
|--|----|
| The number of adults sheltered..... | 7 |
| The number of members of families represented in school provided with situations | 28 |
| The number of transient persons provided..... | 34 |
| The number of children received into the "Home"..... | 41 |
| The number of children at present in the "Home"..... | 34 |
| The number returned to parents or friends..... | 22 |
| The number provided with homes..... | 11 |
| The number dismissed to other institutions..... | 1 |
| The number died in the "Home"..... | 1 |

The Visiting Committees of the Board of Managers report as follows:

"We have investigated each case referred to us, and have called at the school children's homes. It is in these visits that we witness the destitution and scanty fare, that our deepest sympathy is awakened, and we must rejoice that our Home supplies one comfortable meal each day to these hungered children. At the holidays the children are not forgotten by the good people of the district. At Thanksgiving they enjoy a delicious dinner; Christmas, they have a tree covered with useful gifts, and the parents are invited to partake of the supper with their children."

With regard to placing out children, the Secretary says :

"Faithful efforts are made to place the children surrendered to the Association in thrifty, industrious families in the country, where they receive the child as their own, with the pure desire of benefiting it, of rearing it to a useful life, and a respectable citizenship.

"It is in these families, who have so nobly come forward and reached out their helping hands to comfort the poor, that we recognize the true benevolence, the unmeasurable assistance.

"Our Corresponding Secretary maintains a correspondence with both parents and children, replete with heart-cheering news. Nor do we alone rely upon this method of communication. Many have been visited at their homes, where they are leading useful and happy lives."

During the past six years over forty children have been provided with permanent homes.

In regard to the needs of the Institution, the Secretary further states:

"The usefulness of our Industrial Home and School is sadly limited by reason of the insufficient size of the building at present used. It is crowded to the utmost extent that hygienic considerations will permit. Every nook and corner, from attic to cellar, is put into requisition. Still, we cannot make all our little inmates so comfortable as we desire, and every month we are compelled to refuse many applications from those who are legitimate objects of our charity. Fatherless and motherless children, or children who are worse than orphaned, through the crimes or inhumanity of their parents, have a claim upon the sheltering arms of our Institution, which we realize and admit, and it is with heartfelt sorrow that we ever close our doors upon them. Yet, situated as we now are, we feel that we can make only a slight impression on the great mass of wretchedness, which surges bitterly through the life of a great city. There is a strong undertow of poverty, intemperance and nameless misery, which seizes on the waifs of the slums and the streets, and drifts them forward to the criminal classes, who prey upon society and fill our prisons. We try to rescue the children from its clutch, and we regret that we are able to reach and aid so few."

The institution greatly needs a larger and more commodious building. It has already accumulated a small building fund with that object in view, and when its pressing necessities are more fully understood, it is believed that means will be forthcoming for carrying on without embarrassment its truly benevolent work.

The current expenditure of the Association during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, was \$4,835.27.

ORPHAN HOME AND ASYLUM OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

Brooklyn, E. D.

This Asylum is situated on Graham avenue, between Montrose avenue and Johnson street, in the Eastern District of Brooklyn. It was founded by the members of the Church of the Holy Trinity in 1860, and incorporated November 23, 1861.

The immediate working of the institution is committed to the Sisters of St. Dominic. Children of both sexes are received and given a religious, moral and industrial education. Secular education is imparted at the parish school.

There were in the institution October 1, 1875, eighty-one children, seventy-two of whom were orphans and nine, half-orphans. Seventy-

nine of the children were from the County of Kings. Nine were partially supported by parents or friends.

The work has mainly been sustained through the voluntary donations of the members of the Church of the Holy Trinity, to whom much credit is due for their liberal support as well as to the Sisters for their praiseworthy labors. It is believed that the affairs of the Asylum are well managed, and that it is worthy of public confidence.

The number of children received during the past year was ten, the number discharged, eleven. Four of these were indentured and six returned to parents or guardians. The total expenditure during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, was \$2,970.10. The invested funds of the Asylum amount to \$30,000.

ORPHAN ASYLUM SOCIETY OF THE CITY OF BROOKLYN.

Brooklyn.

The immediate occasion of the organization of this Asylum, which was incorporated April 15, 1835, was the relief of the large number of children that had been left destitute by the ravages of the cholera in 1832. A voluntary association of ladies was first formed, which continued till its incorporation.

Eight lots of ground were donated by General Robert F. Manly, in August, 1838, on which the first building on Cumberland street, near Myrtle avenue, was erected. Subsequently four other lots were donated by other gentlemen, and an additional building put up, making the capacity of the institution equal to the accommodation of one hundred and thirty children. The funds for the erection of the building in each case were derived from subscriptions of the citizens of Brooklyn.

In 1867 the present property, between Herkimer street and Atlantic avenue, was purchased, and the present commodious edifice was occupied on the 15th of June, 1872. This structure is built of Philadelphia brick, trimmed with Ohio and Connecticut stone, the basement being of blue granite. It stands about one hundred and twenty-four feet from the curb on Atlantic avenue, on which it fronts, and occupies about the center of the plot of forty-four lots, which belong to the Asylum. It is, including the mansard roof, four stories in height. A flight of stone steps leads from the hall into a fine lawn. The grounds are bordered in front and on one side by a neat iron fence, while on the rear side of the building are the play-grounds of the boys and girls, each inclosed by a high board fence.

The institution is under the control of a Board of Lady Managers and an Advisory Board of gentlemen. The immediate charge of the house is committed to a matron, Miss J. R. Davis. There are also in

the Asylum an assistant matron, three teachers, two seamstresses, two care-takers, and sixteen domestics.

On the date of visitation, October 20, there were two hundred and seventy-five children in the house, one hundred and twelve of whom were girls, and one hundred and sixty-three boys. The ages ranged between two and fourteen. In the absence of the matron, from the principal of the school, Miss Mary Horton, the following information was obtained: A great many of the children have one parent living, in which case, if part of the child's board is paid, the parent has the right to take it away at any time. A large number of the children are taken by their parents. Sometimes we indenture the children, and we send some West. We have had very good reports from those who have gone there. Some have been adopted, and are doing well. Regarding the time the children stay in the institution, it was stated that it was not intended to keep them after fourteen.

The girls receive two hours instruction every week in hand sewing. The rest of the time is mainly spent in school, which is under the Department of Public Instruction. The school-room, in addition to the usual furniture of such an apartment, contains a piano. A large portion of the space around the wall is well taken up with blackboards. The children are very fond of singing, and receive weekly instruction in vocal music from a gentleman who has given his services gratuitously to the institution in this department for the last twenty years. Moral and religious instruction is carefully imparted, without any attempt at sectarian bias. A Sunday school is held on the premises, and the children attend the various Protestant churches in the city. They have a small library, which is replenished by parties occasionally sending contributions of books. As a stimulus to good conduct, a roll of honor is kept.

The building is well arranged and intended to combine all modern improvements. It is so constructed that, in case of fire, either wing may be shut off from the main by means of heavy iron doors, and the balustrades are protected by iron screen-work, to prevent children from injury by falling over. It is lighted with gas and heated by steam, and has a water supply carried to the various floors of the house.

The dormitories are cleanly kept, and are fine, airy apartments. The bedsteads are single, and of iron, and the beds are amply provided with covering. In both boys' and girls' dressing-rooms are presses about five feet deep, in which their Sunday clothes and other apparel are hung.

The lavatories for both sexes are very complete, being similarly furnished and warmed by steam. Each contains two circular tubs, four feet eight inches wide, with wooden rims. Around the sides of each room are troughs, with perforated pipes running above them the entire

length, to enable the children to wash in running water. Each child has its own towel, brush and comb. Great attention is paid to personal cleanliness. Each child's hair is fine-combed twice a week.

The dining-room is furnished with tables and stools. The tables are covered with enameled cloth, and the seats in this apartment are circular and supported by iron pedestals. Bread of a superior quality is used. It is made with hop yeast, and baked in a brick oven.

The Nursery, on the day of visitation, contained thirty little children under five years of age. The play-room adjoins it, and was profusely supplied with toys.

The hospital was without an inmate. This is divided into two departments; one division being for children suffering from contagious diseases, who require to be kept apart; the other for ordinary cases of sickness. All the conveniences of such apartments are here provided.

On October 1, 1875, the number of children in the institution who were orphans was thirty, the number of half-orphans two hundred and twenty-six, and eighteen had both parents living. Fifty-nine were of native parents, and two hundred and fifteen were of foreign parents. One hundred and twenty-six of the children were partially or entirely supported by parents or friends, and one hundred and forty-eight wholly by the institution. They are mostly of respectable parentage. The mothers are working at service, and leave their children here.

The number of children received during the past year was one hundred and forty-six; the number discharged, one hundred and ten. Of this number, one was placed out by adoption, eight were indentured, eighty-six returned to parents and guardians, and eleven sent out of the State.

This long-established institution has accomplished, since its organization, a great amount of good. It cannot be ascertained how many children have received its benefactions, but the number is very large. During the period of its working it has won the confidence of the community, as is evident from its prosperous condition, shown in the expensive structure which has been erected. Its real estate is valued at \$200,000.00. Its funded investments are \$17,380.00. Its expenditures during last year, were \$39,769.06.

It is a pleasant thought, in connection with this asylum, in view of the large field of labor in which it is located, that its present capacity for five hundred inmates enables it to enter upon a still larger work of usefulness than it has hitherto been able to undertake.

On October 1st, the number of children in the institution was five hundred and fifty. Of these, one hundred and fifty-one were orphans, three hundred and twenty-nine, half-orphans, and seventy had both parents living. Forty-six were of native, and five hundred and four of foreign parentage.

St. Joseph's Female Orphan Asylum.

This Asylum is located on an elevated site, on the corner of Wiloughby and Yates avenues. It is a four-story building, with mansard roof and a basement. At the head of the establishment is Sister Mary Louise, who, with thirteen other Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity, carry on the work in behalf of destitute female children.

The Asylum takes children from three years old and upwards. At the age of fourteen or fifteen they are transferred to the Industrial School on Congress street. While here, however, they receive a good, plain English education, and are exercised in industries suited to their years, such as mending and making their own clothes, and assisting in the general work of the house.

At the time of the transfer of the children from the Kings County Poor-house Nursery, this Asylum received within its doors ninety-three little girls. The Sister, being questioned about their condition on arriving, said: "They were not very healthy. They did not come up to the average of other children. A great many had skin diseases; some had sore eyes, and generally, they were very delicate children. There was, it would seem, some mismanagement with regard to their clothing. I found out, from the children, that in some cases they wore each other's clothes in the poor-house nursery. What they wore one day they did not wear the next day."

Regarding the condition of the children that come now from the Commissioners of Charities, the Sister remarks: "Those children that came from the poor-house nursery were not as healthy as those that the Commissioners have since sent."

The children, on the day of visitation, October 18, were mostly in the class-rooms of the institution. These were furnished with the modern appliances of such apartments. In one room were seventy-four children, in another, eighty-two, and in another, forty-eight; while in the school-room in the basement there were about one hundred and eighty. "No child under five years of age is," the Sister informed us, "allowed to attend school."

The dormitories are large airy apartments, with good sun exposure, having windows on three sides. They are furnished with iron bedsteads, single. The beds are of straw. This is packed in ticks and changed as often as the Sisters deem necessary. Great care is taken to

preserve cleanliness. Two Sisters sleep in each of the girls' dormitories with a view to better preserve order, and to attend to the inmates if taken sick during the night.

In the infirmary were three children; one suffering from sore eyes; another, consumptive; and the third, slightly indisposed.

An inspection of the work being done in this asylum showed that it was conducted by those feeling a deep interest in the successful accomplishment of its objects.

St. Paul's Female Orphan Asylum or Industrial School,

Is situated on the corner of Clinton and Congress streets, and is in charge of Sister Constantia Hull, assisted by eleven other Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of Sisters of Charity of Mt. St. Vincent.

This institution is intended to receive girls from the St. Joseph's Female Orphan Asylum, after they have arrived at the age of fourteen or fifteen, and, while giving them a home during what is regarded as a critical period in a young girl's life, to afford them an opportunity of learning a trade which will enable them to become self-supporting. The aims of the institution are shadowed forth in the following statement, made by the Sisters in charge, on the day of visitation, October 18: "We consider this the orphans' home. If their health becomes impaired, instead of going into a hospital, they can come here and feel that they have a home. If, after being placed out, they wish to return, we allow them to come back to us. To those that have no home when sick, we offer shelter. The age for admission is about thirteen years. The girls remain till they are eighteen, and if they are homeless, we keep them as long as they wish to stay. They are taught to do plain sewing, vest-making, dress-making, and all kinds of fancy needlework. They are generally put in what is termed the finishing department first, and then transferred to the machine department. Some having a talent for the work, learn both dress and vest-making. We do private family sewing that requires some amount of taste and skill. We teach the girls how to cut out dresses. We have also a washing and ironing department. If the girls are inclined to be very industrious, after they have performed their allotted tasks, they can work for themselves. When they leave the house we give them a trunk of clothing. It forms a pretty reasonable wardrobe. They can earn, on leaving, from \$7 to \$14 a week."

The Sister further says regarding their aims: "We have, as yet, no school on the premises, but we intend to commence one next year, giving the children two hours' schooling during the day. Before the establishment of this industrial school, our practice was to place the children out at eleven or twelve years of age. We found, however,

that girls at the ages of thirteen, fourteen and fifteen need more care than at any other time."

The house has accommodations for about two hundred and fifty girls. In one workroom were exhibited very elaborate specimens of silk embroidery; in another, a number of young girls were sitting round a large table, all looking tidy, and actively employed; in a third, sixty-four sewing machines were in operation. In the finishing room, seventy-five girls were engaged in completing the work, after it had left the machine. In the dressmaking department were eight girls, who were being instructed, under an experienced lady, in the various branches of this remunerative trade. Attached to the industrial department is also an examining room, where all the work is taken and inspected, before being sent home.

The dormitories of this institution are one hundred and twenty-five feet long, and are furnished with single iron bedsteads, two feet eight inches wide. Two Sisters sleep in each room. The mattresses are of straw, and the pillows of feathers. The Sister says: "We leave the windows partially open during even the coldest weather."

On October 1, 1875, the number of girls in the institution was two hundred and twenty-five. Of these, one hundred and thirty were orphans, ninety-three, half-orphans, and two had both parents living. All with one exception were of foreign parentage; and all, except one, were mainly supported by the institution.

The atmosphere of the house was cheerful; many of the girls were singing at their tasks.

As before stated, one hundred and thirty of the inmates were orphans. These, instead of being left to shift for themselves, were here acquiring habits of industry, and learning useful trades, rendering them capable of earning an honest and independent subsistence; while under the influence of the Sisters, with whom they are brought into intimate and friendly contact, they are forming Christian characters; and when the educational feature of the institution is introduced, as is contemplated, the interest of this class will, doubtless, be still further promoted.

THE SHELTERING ARMS NURSERY OF LONG ISLAND.

Brooklyn.

This institution is located at 524 Atlantic avenue. It was organized by a few benevolent ladies, in April, 1870, but is not yet incorporated. Its objects, as set forth in the report of its President, Mrs. J. A. Pad-dock, are two-fold. First, "The offering of a home with protection,

kindness, care, food, warmth and comfort to little ones, from a month to seven years of age, especially to those who have been deserted by fathers, or who have intemperate mothers, and from whose homes comfort has fled." The secondary object is the helping of the surviving parent of half-orphan children to help themselves.

The institution is controlled by a Board of Lady Managers, and its finances are administered by a Board of Trustees. The immediate charge of the institution is committed to a matron. It occupies what was once a four-story private residence, which has been altered and adapted to its present use. The hall of the Home, as we entered it, on the day of visitation, was jubilant with the noisy prattle of children.

The Matron, Mrs. Christian, stated that the principal work of the ladies was among the day children. "The mothers," she says, "go out to work and bring their children here in the morning. They pay us ten cents, and their children are cared for during the day and returned to them in the evening. A great many of the children are motherless. Parents that can afford it, pay us \$1 a week. Some children are supported by different churches or Sabbath schools. We have but one full orphan, and only one of the children really belongs to the institution. This was deserted by its mother. The other is the only child that we can say is an orphan. Some have fathers living; some both fathers and mothers.

"We have forty-six that are permanently with us. The youngest is six weeks old. We have about twenty children that have been brought up in the nursery from infancy.

"The working force of the nursery consists of a matron, care-taker, four hospital and other nurses — night and day nurses being in each dormitory — three wet nurses, a laundress, an assistant laundress, a cook and a woman to take charge of the day children, who are kept separate from the others. The children are taught their letters and singing.

"We have service every Sunday afternoon, and require all the inmates old enough, to attend it. The care-taker, hospital nurse and the principal employes of the institution are members of churches. The managers are particular to have the children under good moral influences. Children are only received by permission of the members of the Investigating Committee. Several of the children are sisters and brothers, or we may have two sisters and a brother. Two-thirds of them are motherless."

The nursery was found to be well kept; the school-room and other parts of the house bore evidence of careful management.

The work of the nursery is very much contracted for want of funds. The Matron says: "We have about fifteen applications a month more

than we can take in. We have had to refuse seven this week, all very pressing cases. It is the hardest part of our work to refuse. We had thirty applicants during the months of June, July and August, and it was impossible to admit one of them."

The general health of the inmates appeared to be good, for an institution of its kind, where children are received that have been drugged, ill-fed and sadly neglected. The Matron says: "We have had six deaths this year from the 4th of February. We admit children even if they are in a dying condition. We do not refuse those suffering from any disease, unless it be contagious." In regard to the health of the inmates, the two attending physicians give the following testimony: "A large number of those admitted were in an unhealthy condition, being either exhausted by previous illness or with inherited tendencies to disease. It is to this class of our population that the Sheltering Arms is of the most inestimable value."

The work of the nursery for the past five years is stated to be as follows: "Three hundred and seventy-one have been the recipients of its care by day and night for a longer or shorter period. Seventeen hundred and seven have been taken care of during the day, while their mothers were laboring for their support. During this period sixty-six have died, notwithstanding the care which the institution had bestowed upon them."

The total expenditures during the year were \$4,708.08.

The number of inmates October 1, 1875, who were half-orphans, was twenty-eight, and the number who had both parents living, was twenty-two. One was an orphan. All except eight were of native parents.

The work which is here being better done than is possible under any official system, is one which largely belongs to the public to perform, and which gives the institution a strong claim on the sympathy of the people; rescuing, as it does, families from pauperism, children from entering on downward paths, and enabling heads of families to still retain their self-respect and independence by tiding them over difficulties which would otherwise break them down.

It will be seen that since its organization over two thousand children have been brought under its humanizing influences, in whose receptive minds good seed has been sown that may bear promising fruit in after life.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE AID OF FRIENDLESS WOMEN AND CHILDREN,
Brooklyn,

Was organized by a few Christian ladies in 1869, and incorporated April 28, 1870.

Its objects, as set forth in its certificate of incorporation, are "to aid destitute friendless women and children to help themselves, by providing a temporary home where they may receive proper moral and intellectual culture, until they shall be provided for otherwise. It shall be a prominent object to find them employment and a home where their services are needed, and where they may be surrounded by the best social and moral influences."

The institution is located at 20 Concord street. The building occupied is four stories, including a Mansard attic. Its affairs are controlled by a Board of Lady Managers. The ladies are assisted by an Advisory Board of gentlemen.

At the time of visitation, October 16, the institution was under the immediate charge of a matron.

In reply to inquiries regarding the workings of the Home, the matron, Mrs. Conkling, says: "We receive children while their parents are at work, or while they are in hospitals or jails. Sometimes it happens that a mother is steady and the father a drunkard. Sometimes the father is steady and the mother a drunkard. We generally take orphans and half-orphans for a few days, till they can be placed in other institutions. We receive inmates at all hours up to ten o'clock at night. We take any child or woman that comes to us till their case is investigated. We do not take them if they have any home and can get into any other place. We keep them till better openings offer. On our fourth floor are a few rooms, where young girls in humble circumstances who are learning telegraphy, printing or dress-making in the city, may board at a cheap rate. They frequently have so very low wages that they cannot get board within their means in respectable places elsewhere. If a girl gets but two dollars a week, she cannot keep herself on that."

"We send the children out of the house to Sunday school. Sometimes mothers occupy the rooms here temporarily till their husbands succeed in getting work, or till some relatives take them in, or they have other provision made for them. We never keep children here for years; it is a matter of weeks or months with us. We have thirty in the house at present. We have a nursery, but do not take children under a year old, except when they come with their mothers for a short time.

"Often, just before night, a mother and her family will come in

upon us. It's a place that we never can tell exactly how much we may use one week. We are liable, at any time, to have the door-bell rung and see a woman standing at the doorway with her family looking for relief."

The nursery had in it, on the day of visitation, twelve little children, the youngest being two and the oldest five years of age. It is a very pleasant room, furnished with little cribs. A cheerful fire was burning in the grate, and toys were strewn about the room. This apartment is in charge of nurses.

The dormitory, for the larger children, is furnished with single iron bedsteads, straw beds, and kept very neatly and well ventilated.

The hospital department was without an inmate. It is used for any children who may come in afflicted with sore eyes. They are placed here and kept strictly separate from the others. "The children," Mrs. Conkling says, "sometimes come filthy and covered with vermin. Then we have to cleanse them and keep them away in a separate apartment for a week or so, till they are free from them. Each child has a separate towel. Children with eruptions we never allow among the rest. In the month of August alone, we took in fifty-two women and thirty-nine children."

The other rooms of the house were found to be nicely kept. Some were for the use of respectable families who come here for temporary shelter, others for the use of parties in different stations in life. An effort is made to secure for each as much comfort as possible, and to provide for them in such a way that the contrast of their present with their past lives may not suggest any painful reminiscences. To avoid imposition in the distribution of the charity of the Society, the ladies conducting the work say:

"We have a vigorous, daily investigating committee, who endeavor to distinguish between poverty resulting from accident or illness, and that which is the inevitable consequence of vice. There is an amount of this work in our world which seems to be no one's business to attend to. Society does little more than defend itself against encroachments. A part of this work we are doing. We give our means to all applicants, without distinction of sect; in the spirit of the great Hebrew Prophet, 'without money and without price.'"

The ladies further say, in regard to the children coming under their care: "Our Sunday services are not neglected. Our children attend Sunday school, and returning home they, with the older inmates, gather in our chapel, where the voice of prayer and praise and exhortation goes up with earnestness and pathos. These children go from us, from time to time, and are gathered into other institutions, or

returned to their own homes, or placed in other homes obtained for them by adoption. The past severe winter has often brought families to our open door. The husband and father unable to find employment, want and hunger came to their wives and little ones, but when work came they were reunited. Never do we advise giving up a home, but rather help them to keep it, which we think is the truer charity." As further illustrating the work being done in this temporary home, we quote from the last annual report of the Secretary, Mrs. J. S. T. Stranahan :

"The improvidence of the class for whom we labor, and the recklessness with which they throw aside a present good for some chimera, is proverbial. A young girl says to me, 'I left a good place in the East. I wanted to make a home for my brother; sickness, then death came to him. I have spent all my money, and I don't know what to do. We receive and encourage her; in tears she goes out seeking for work; in joy she soon returns; she has found what she sought, and is passed out into the great army of workers, and we see her no more.'

"A Mrs. —, from the South, came to us bringing letters of reference. Her story was one of difficulties to contend with. She was well educated, with a character not lacking in energy, and we were glad to give her the help she so much needed, which she required only for a short time.

"Mrs. —, a widow, having lost in a few brief years parents and husband, educated and refined, reduced from ease and comfort, came to New York, leaving two children with a nurse of her family in Providence. The failure of a business left her destitute; through Mr. — she came to us. Soon a situation was obtained for her as housekeeper, but she must pass through deeper afflictions; as she was leaving us, intelligence came that her children were sick with diphtheria. Almost wild with fear, she left, to find on her arrival, one dead, the other dying. After a time she returned, accepted the situation still open to her, and now, with many thanks to us, says: 'What should I have done without your 'Home'?"

"One more, a case occurring in our midst. A mother with two lovely children just passing into girlhood, was in great affliction; the husband and father, a broker in Wall Street, was convicted and sent to prison for forgery. In debt for board, she came to us, hoping to find a way out of her difficulties. A firm believer in her husband's innocence, she expects his pardon from the Governor; more than this faint hope, there is nothing before her for five long years. In February she left us to go to some friends in the West.

"These are only a few of the many cases coming under our notice, where penury and refinement are united."

The following statistics are given from the same source in regard to

the work accomplished: "Six hundred and twenty-seven women and one hundred and eighty-three children have been received during the year just closed; of these two hundred and ten women have left for service; two hundred and eighty-three to care for themselves. One hundred and eighty children have been taken by their friends or gathered into other homes or permanent institutions. Quite a number of women and children are with us now; these children are asking for a home; these women for work of all kinds. We give them *immediate* relief; they come to us hungry, we feed them; naked and they are sent away clothed.

The number of meals furnished during the year is sixty-two thousand one hundred and seventy-one. Lodgings, twenty thousand six hundred and twenty-four. There have been four cases of diphtheria, two of scarlet fever, and but three deaths."

As showing the spirit with which this energetic band of workers are imbued, we quote the language of one of its officers:

"Looking back eighteen hundred years, we perceive that we belong to a sisterhood notable for pious, benevolent deeds. The first hospital was founded by a woman, Fabiola, and the 'charity planted by her hand' overspread the world, and will alleviate to the end of time the darkest anguish of humanity. We cannot follow, one by one, the links which bind us through successive years to this immortal woman. We know of Paula, of Marcia, of St. Ursula, of St. Augustine's mother; but nowhere, save in the Book of Life, are the names of others, no less lovely, recorded. They worked as we work. Dying, they left their charge to other hands, as we must do at no very distant day!"

The work being done by this Association is of such a nature as to have impressed the community in which it is situated with a sense of its value, and it is gratifying it should be so, as its demands are great, not only upon the corps of laborers engaged, but upon the charitably disposed. The successful rescuing of one family from sinking through business failure, disease or death, from a position of respectability and independence into the ranks of the pauper class, and the saving of the children is of such importance as to heartily commend the work of this society.

ST. JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION FOR THE IMPROVED INSTRUCTION OF
DEAF-MUTES, IN THE CITY OF BROOKLYN.

Brooklyn.

A society of ladies forming a religious community, under the name of the Order of the Daughters of Mary, manage the affairs of this

institution. Five ladies are engaged in the work, Miss Phalen being the first directress. Their services are voluntary, and the Order, we were informed, is self-supporting.

The institution is situated at 177 Main street. It was incorporated and opened in May, 1875, and it had on the day of visitation, October the 20th, 1875, twenty-four pupils, all females.

The art of lip reading and articulation, as well as the sign language, are taught. The course of instruction extends over seven years.

Pupils are received from six years and upward. One in the house at that time was said to be as old as thirty-three; she was a poor person, not able to pay for her board, and was maintained by the institution. The lady in charge said: "I have children under instruction who have never been at school a day." Eleven of the pupils were from the county, an allowance of \$300 a year being made for each. Four or five were private pupils, their expenses being defrayed by their parents. A few were educated by authority of the State.

The work of caring for this class of defectives, to whom the melody of human speech is forever denied, and the endeavor to compensate their loss by artificial means, is one eminently worthy of Christian effort. To teach this class requires great tact as well as patience, and seems to come very appropriately within the province of woman.

ST. VINCENT'S HOME FOR BOYS.

Brooklyn.

Two private houses, one on 7 Poplar street and the other in its rear on 10 Vine street, are connected by a covered yard and constitute a home for newsboys and others of this class who are being encouraged to earn something on their own account. The institution is under the auspices of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul, and is managed by a Board of Directors.

The house, on the 19th of October, was found to be under the immediate charge of Mr. Michael Dolan, Resident Superintendent. It is fitted up with chapel, gymnasium and school-room, besides the usual accessories of a "newsboys" home. It also possesses a library of entertaining reading matter of some 160 volumes.

The dormitories are furnished with bedsteads of iron, arranged in double tiers. The mattresses are of corn-husks, and the covering was ample for the season. The accommodations of the house are sufficient for 160 boys, and by occupying a floor now vacant, its capacity could be increased to 250. Provision is made for wash and bath-rooms, and each boy has a small closet with lock and key in which to keep his clothing.

If able to do so, boys pay ten cents a day, or seventy cents a week. For this they get breakfast and supper on week days and three meals on Sundays. But although pay is required from those who have money, no boy is excluded for lack of means. The object of charging the boys is stated to be for the purpose of teaching them independence and self-reliance. It is not designed to make the Home a permanent one for the boys, but merely a help toward their attaining something better. They are always at liberty to leave. It was further stated that good reports were heard from the boys who had left the Home, and that many of them go away to work during the summer and earn enough to return and attend school during the winter.

The chapel can accommodate 150 persons. A night school is opened at eight o'clock every night, and remains in session an hour and a half. Reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic and some of the more advanced branches of education are here taught. In connection with the school there is a dramatic club, composed of the boys in the Home, which is intended as a source of innocent and instructive amusement. The friends of the boys are invited annually to one of these entertainments. Careful attention is given to the moral and religious training of the inmates, the aim being to lay the foundation of a good, moral character, which will enable them to grow up useful citizens and worthy members of society. They are also taught vocal music under a qualified teacher. A piano is kept in the house and is used as occasion requires.

The breakfast, it is said, consists of bread, syrup and coffee, sometimes of bread and butter; the dinner or supper, of meat, potatoes and other vegetables, sometimes of stew, with rice or bread pudding.

The house is heated by furnace, and is supplied with water as far as the second floor. The income of the Home is derived from voluntary donations and from the aid given by the various Catholic churches in the city of Brooklyn, and from the payments made by the boys.

An inspection of this institution and an inquiry into its workings left the impression that it was accomplishing much good in the way of arresting neglected youth tending to paths of vice and criminality, and that it is one of the living moral powers in the city.

TRUANT HOME.

Brooklyn.

No opportunity offered to visit this institution, and this report upon it, except the statistical information, was kindly furnished by the Hon. A. A. Low, Commissioner of Kings county.

The bill to incorporate this Home was passed in 1853, but owing to

the lack of a suitable location, no steps were taken to carry out the design till 1857. The growth of truancy in the city, and the multiplied instances of children rebelling against parental control, called for some provision to remedy the evil, and to meet this want the Truant Home was established.

The Home first occupied the old Penitentiary building, which was found to be an undesirable location and otherwise unsuited to the purpose. In 1869 the Home was removed to a property known as "Snediker's Hotel," a building on the grounds of the Home, in which it remained until 1870, when the present structure was erected.

It is situated about eight miles from the city hall, on the Jamaica plank-road, in the town of New Lots, near the old Union course. Its grounds cover about eleven acres, eight of which are under garden cultivation, and afford vegetables enough to supply the institution. The premises are inclosed by an ordinary fence.

The building is of brick, eighty by forty, and forty feet high. It has three stories and a deep basement. When the appointments are complete it will have accommodations for one hundred and fifty boys.

The kitchen, dining-room and wash-room are in the basement. The school-rooms are on the first floor; the dormitories on the second and third floors. The building has a portable furnace in the dining-room, which heats the small school-room. This furnace also contributes to the dormitories above. A large furnace in the cellar on a level with the kitchen, and close to it, heats the main school-room and dormitories, which are above each other, and run the whole length of the building. The house is well lighted, having about sixteen windows to every floor. The rooms have the old-fashioned ventilators, and the facilities for ventilating, independent of the windows, are probably imperfect. The school-rooms are separated by a glass partition.

The only water tank is on the third floor, in a closet off the dormitory. This is too small, and the pipes leading from it to the closets are on the north-west side of the building where there is no furnace heat, and consequently freeze up in the winter. The water is pumped into the tank by hand from a well.

One acre of ground in the rear of the building is inclosed with a board fence, fifteen feet high. This play-ground is very muddy at times, and when this is the case, the boys are, it is stated, kept in the house, and have no exercise in the open air.

The laundry is in a shed. One strong woman does all the work, with the assistance of two of the boys. Eight hundred pieces are washed every week, almost without the aid of any modern appliances.

There is an ice-house on the premises, also a small house used for a stable and barn, and for storing products of the farm and garden.

The superintendent's family occupy "Snediker's hotel" which faces

the road, but is in the inclosure of the "Home," and belonging to it. The "Home" building stands about fifty feet back and to the left of the hotel. The latter is of wood, three stories high, with as much room as the other house, but the internal arrangements are adapted to its original use.

Children of both sexes, between the ages of five and fourteen, are by law eligible for admission, but as there are no facilities for accommodating girls, only boys are now received. They are committed by the mayor, by magistrates or by justices of the peace. Many are picked up by policemen on the streets, but the majority are sent by parents as insubordinate children.

The school is conducted on the premises under the Municipal Board of Education, the teachers being paid by the city government. The children are instructed in reading, writing, arithmetic, and other studies belonging to the common-school branches. Sunday schools for both Roman Catholic and Protestant children are maintained, but no other religious instruction is said to be given.

Gardening and farming are taught on a limited scale. The strongest and oldest boys are employed, but as the lot is not properly secured, and as the Home has but one watchman, it is unsafe to use many at a time. Six hours are devoted to work.

Since the opening of the Home two thousand three hundred and sixty-four boys have been received. The average attendance is about one hundred. The children are comfortably clad in gray cloth suits, perfectly plain. If parents furnish clothes and wish them to be worn, no objection is made, but very few do, however. Due regard is paid to cleanliness. The boys bathe every Saturday, but the bathing facilities are inadequate. They bathe in large wash-tubs.

No hospital accommodations are provided. The children suffer very little from sickness. Four have died in seven years, three with scarlet fever and one with cholera.

The dining-room is small and almost under ground; the children stand at meals, chairs and benches not being allowed.

The water-closets in the house are out of order in the winter, and those outside are not sufficient. The water freezing in the tank, as it frequently does, makes it necessary to prepare food in the other building. The windows of the dormitories are not properly protected, and as the boys' clothes are taken away at night to prevent escapes, they sometimes tie the sheets together, let themselves down and run away naked.

The financial affairs of the Home are controlled by the Board of Aldermen. It is under the immediate charge of a Superintendent, whose wife acts as Matron. Two teachers, a watchman, a fireman, two women to do general housework, one laundress, two cooks and one seamstress constitute the working force.

The boys are discharged by order of the Mayor, but there is no pains taken to hold them under surveillance afterward. The number of cases reformed is stated to be about ten per cent.

The number of children returned to parents or guardians during the year was one hundred and twenty-three, the number that left without permission eleven. Of those remaining, October 1, eleven were orphans, forty, half orphans and thirty-three had both parents living.

The total expenditures of the institution during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, was \$23,469.22; of this \$4,012.91 was for improvements. The value of its real estate, buildings, fixtures, etc., is \$83,600.

ASYLUM OF OUR LADY OF REFUGE.

Buffalo.

This institution, commonly designated as the "House of the Good Shepherd," is situated on Best street. Its buildings are located on a tract of ground three hundred and seventy by three hundred and thirty-four feet, in addition to which is an orchard one hundred and forty-one by six hundred and two feet; the whole being inclosed by a high wooden or plank fence, to prevent intrusion and to guard against the escape of inmates. There are two principal buildings within the inclosure. One is a large three-story stone structure with basement, mainly occupied by the Sisters, the other a large three-story brick building with basement, a little apart from the stone edifice, and appropriated to the inmates.

The objects aimed at by the institution are the reformation of fallen women, and of such idle and vicious girls who may be committed to the custody of the Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catholic Children, in accordance with law. By a recent act of the Legislature, a certain class of offending women may be committed to this institution, in the discretion of the magistrate, instead of to the penitentiary. It is also designed to afford a temporary shelter to young girls exposed to temptation, and to aid them in procuring fitting employment. The principal efforts of the institution are directed toward the reclamation of girls who having broken loose from wholesome restraint and entered upon a downward course, are penitent and place themselves voluntarily under its protection.

The institution was founded in 1855, by the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Our Lady of Refuge, and incorporated under the general law January 14, 1866. It is now under the charge of thirty-three Sisters of this Order, of whom Mother Mary, of St. Dominic, is

Lady Superior. They belong to a cloistered Order. There are no paid employes attached to the establishment, except two men engaged in out-door work. At the date of last visitation, August 24, there were one hundred and four inmates, fifty-five of whom were children from seven to fourteen years of age. The Sisters in charge say: "We have some that have passed that age, and remain, because they are not able to provide for themselves. There are three children quite young, that is to say, between four and five years of age. We do not take infants; that is not our work. The youngest should not be below five years, and we should not take these but to accommodate Sisters in other asylums. Those committed here are kept entirely separate from the little children. The unfortunate adult women sent here are separated from the reformatory girls, between the ages of eight and fourteen. We have three classes:

"1st. The preservation class, composed of those who have not erred.

"2d. The consecrated class, composed of girls and women, who make a vow to remain here a certain time, that is to say, a year.

"3d. The penitents, composed of the women sent here by the police.

"After the penitents have served their time out, and they wish to persevere, they are placed among those in the consecrated class. Those committed are sent here for a certain time, some longer, some shorter. They stay that time, in any event, and as long after as they wish. They, however, can never enter our religious Order.

"The industries we carry on are sewing, knitting, coat and vest making. We also take in washing. If we had a place to accommodate them, we could take in a good many more of these poor women, and get employment for them, but we cannot do it for want of room.

"We look after the smaller reformatory children when they leave us, but the larger girls and women we simply return to their friends. We do as much for them as we can. We cannot do as much as we would like. Some, we hear, are doing well. If they behave well while here, we encourage them to communicate with us."

The Sister, on being asked if their work was encouraging, replied: "We are only discouraged in one way, and that is that we have not more room and means to extend it." In regard to the tempers of inmates, the Sister remarked: "The grown women, for a few hours after their arrival, are sometimes stubborn, but generally after a while come and say, 'Well, I will do now what you wish me to.' We discipline them by depriving them of privileges. When they are very bad we let them wear their week-day clothes on Sunday; and for little children we sometimes turn the dress wrong side out. They are usually inclined to obey without punishment, and are pretty docile." The children are kept, the Sister says, till they are about sixteen years of age, and are then either returned to their friends or placed in good situa-

tions. Those committed by law must remain till fourteen. The inmates are never allowed to be alone. There is always one of the Sisters with them.

The school-room was found to be small for the number occupying it. The dormitories, also, though neatly kept, were overcrowded. Careful provision was made for the sick in an infirmary department. Among other comforts, hair mattresses were here used. The work-room contained twelve sewing machines. Members of the consecrated class were here at work.

In the laundry were seven of the committed women at work with a Sister, who was also engaged in active labor. No conversation is permitted. A group of girls were also on one of the rear balconies listening to religious reading. It is customary to spend a short time in this way every evening before supper.

Regarding the compensation for the maintenance of inmates, the Sister says: "None of our children are regularly paid for. Sometimes their friends promise to remunerate us, and do so for a week or two and then fail. For the children committed by magistrates from the county of Erie, we receive \$1 per week."

A casual visitor to this institution cannot be otherwise than impressed with the patience-trying and laborious work in which this Sisterhood are engaged, and yet it is persevered in with unflagging zeal, and doubtless with much heartache. They, as well as all others engaged in like efforts to reform the class committed to their care, are deserving the sympathy and aid of the public.

THE BUFFALO ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Buffalo.

This Asylum, whose object is "to furnish relief and a home for orphan and destitute children," is located on Virginia street, in a pleasant quarter of the city of Buffalo. It was established by the joint action of the various Protestant churches of the city, in 1836, and incorporated April 24, 1837, by a special act of the legislature.

The asylum edifice, which was built in 1850, is of brick, in the Italian style of architecture, and consists of a main with two parallel wings. It is two stories high, with an attic and basement in addition. It is well lighted and has high ceilings. The windows are adjusted by cords, weights and pulleys. It is warmed by coal stoves, lighted by gas and supplied with water from the city works. It is capable of accommodating about one hundred inmates. The dining-room, kitchen and laundry are in the basement. An urgent want was felt

for play-rooms for boys and girls. The grounds are well inclosed, but its limited space admits of no garden. The institution is supplied very largely with vegetables from the extensive grounds of its president.

Adjoining the Asylum yard is a frame school-house. Here the children of the Asylum are instructed, together with a limited number of children from the neighborhood. The school is under the charge of the Department of Public Instruction of the city.

The financial affairs of the Asylum are controlled by a Board of Trustees. Its internal affairs are managed by a Board of Directresses. It is under the immediate charge of Mrs. Robert McPherson, Matron, who, with the exception of an interval of nine months, has been in charge six years. This lady taught one of the first charity schools in the city of Perth, Scotland. The matron has under her direction a nurse, chambermaid, seamstress, cook, laundress and dining-room girl.

In regard to the kind of helpers selected and the character of the surroundings that children ought to have, Mrs. McPherson says: "We try to have persons of character employed in the institution, and to have all the surroundings of the children neat and clean, such as will tend to elevate their young minds and excite their ambition." Mrs. McPherson, on being asked how she thought this work of caring for children should be carried on to render it most efficient, said: "I think our Protestant asylums do not prosper as well as they might in consequence of not having the right kind of help. We ought to have a Protestant Sisterhood composed of ladies, whose object would be simply to do the work for its own sake. This would insure workers of a refined character."

The children in the Asylum are variously dressed. Great pains is taken to keep them clean. They are required to bathe once a week. Vocal music is taught by the Matron's Sister, and a lady from the city comes on Sundays to teach the children to sing hymns.

In the early part of 1874, when the children from the county poor-house were transferred to Asylums, twenty-six of the number were placed here. Of these only three on the date of visitation, August 19, remained, the rest having, through the kind solicitude of the managers, been placed in good homes. Up to that time seventy-one children in all had been received from the Superintendent of the Poor.

The inmates appeared to be in good health. No case of sickness occurred the past year; but, during the year preceding our visit, there were three deaths in the institution, the first for a number of years.

Children are taken between the ages of two and twelve years, and placed out as soon as good homes can be found. Mrs. McPherson remarks in reference to the age for receiving children, "the younger

they are when they arrive the better. After they are seven years old it is pretty hard to weed out the bad that is in them."

Due attention is paid to industrial and religious training. The children, boys and girls, are taught to sew and knit, and some very excellent specimens of their handiwork were shown in the shape of ornamental pieces of furniture, embroidery, etc.

The matron being a firm believer in the necessity of basing all true reform on Christian teaching, every opportunity that the domestic economy of the house will permit is availed of to inculcate religious sentiments. There is morning and evening worship; grace is said before and after meals, and texts and hymns are committed to memory, and the children asked to repeat them on various occasions in which the sentiment or truth which they embody has a fitting application. The matron says: "I think Biblical knowledge does the children more good than any thing else. I could not accomplish any thing without religious teaching." The evening worship in winter is prolonged, and is generally preceded by some entertainment which the children can enjoy, and which gives them a taste for home-life. Among the amusements the matron encourages the children to entertain themselves, by testing each other's knowledge on subjects which are supposed to be familiar to all. Questions are quickly put and the answers are expected to be prompt. This exercise is often the occasion of much merriment, especially when adults participate in it and a wrong answer happens to be given. The pastime has a tendency not only to stimulate thought, but to make the pupils ready in expression. The ambition of the children is aroused, their desire to excel is awakened, and its effect is seen in the ardent desire to increase their stock of general knowledge. The evening amusements are followed by reading and instruction from the Scriptures — closing with singing and prayer.

In "placing children out," all reasonable precautions are taken to obtain for them suitable homes. More concern is felt for the moral character of the guardians than for their material well being. Children are placed out three months on trial, after which some settlement is effected, either by indenture or adoption if both parties desire it. More difficulty is found in disposing of girls than boys, which is owing, the matron thinks, to a want of Christian charity and patience on the part of those taking them, and to the difficulty of placing them in suitable families. Parties applying for girls, she thinks, "either expect to find one without faults or to procure a girl out of whom they can make a perfect drudge." The asylum has connected with it a visiting committee who look after the children when they leave the institution.

Of the children who have gone out from the asylum, the matron informed us many have attained respectable standing in the world.

Some are in business, some are married and have become happy wives and mothers, and one girl is now in New York city studying music under a professional teacher. The matron makes it a practice to correspond with all the children who leave the asylum. One year we learned she received as many as forty-nine letters.

The house was found to be under good management. The rooms were clean and well aired. The dormitories are furnished with double wooden bedsteads, and are connected with a bath-room. The clothes-rooms of both boys and girls are neatly kept.

In the dining-room were fifty tiny glass vases filled with fragrant flowers. These are regularly supplied by a lady interested in the institution, and are placed upon the children's tables during meals, presenting a bright appearance, and bringing to these little ones a taste of summer delights.

The number of children in the asylum October 12th, was seventy-six; forty-five boys and thirty-one girls. Thirteen of these were orphans, thirty were half orphans, and thirty-three had both parents living. Thirty-two were of foreign parents and forty-four of native. The number received during the year was one hundred and fourteen. The number placed out by adoption was sixteen, the number indentured five, returned to parents or guardians seventy-two, left without permission three, otherwise discharged two.

The sum of its investments was \$31,339.51; the disbursement during the year for investment was \$3,000; for all other purposes, \$7,494.30.

The number of children received in the asylum since its organization is 2,272. The number has been increasing from year to year in the following proportion:

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| In 1870 it was..... | 46 |
| " 1871 " | 62 |
| " 1872 " | 62 |
| " 1873 " | 74 |
| " 1874 " | 109 |
| " 1875 " | 113 |

It will be seen that since 1870 its work has increased over two-fold. It has connected with it a large force of earnest workers, and its affairs are under efficient management. There is no doubt but that besides the elevating moral influence it exerts upon the community, the burdens of taxation are much reduced through its benevolent agency.

THE CHARITY FOUNDATION OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO.*Buffalo.*

This institution occupies what was formerly a spacious family mansion, erected on a large lot on Rhode Island street, between Sixth and Seventh streets. Pleasant shade and ornamental trees surround it, and a lawn embellished with flowers, stretches in front. The porch and windows of the house, at the time of visitation, were tastefully ornamented with flowering plants, the whole presenting a home-like aspect.

The Foundation was incorporated under the general law July 28th, 1858. Its objects, as set forth in its charter, are, "The relief, shelter, support, education, protection and maintenance of indigent, sick or infirm persons, including indigent orphans and half orphan children, and all such children as the Providence of God shall have left in a destitute and unprotected state and condition, giving preference to those who are members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, but admitting to the benefits of this charity all persons who will accept the religious ministration of the Protestant Episcopal Church."

As an exposition of the scope of this work, it is elsewhere stated: "This Foundation rests upon a charter obtained from the Legislature of the State of New York, and covering a wide range of charities. It was the intention of the founders, and has been the intention of those interested in the management ever since, to establish upon this Foundation a complete system of benevolent institutions, so arranged as to be mutually protective, and to enable the Protestant Episcopal Church of the city of Buffalo to carry out the letter and spirit of her Divine Lord's principles of charity. We labor, therefore, in the interests of this Foundation, not simply to build up institutions, but to open homes and houses of refuge, where the church can receive and extend a loving care over such of her children as have been overtaken by misfortune and helplessness."

A Home for Aged and Destitute Females was opened in 1858, on Washington street. For several years a house of moderate dimensions afforded sufficient accommodations for the inmates, but it having been determined in the Spring of 1866 to open an Orphans' Ward, and the number of destitute women claiming protection being greatly on the increase, the building now occupied by the Foundation, on Rhode Island street, near Niagara, was purchased. The financial affairs of the Foundation are controlled by a board of twenty-one managers. The conduct of its internal affairs are intrusted to a board of associate managers, composed of ladies representing the different Protestant Episcopal parishes of the city. It is under the immediate superin-

tendence of a matron. It is required that officials in immediate charge shall be communicants in good standing of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

The building is heated by steam and lighted with gas. Water is distributed in pipes, through the different floors. The children occupy the orphans' ward, a large two-story brick building constructed for the purpose, and standing in the rear of the main. The outlook from the upper windows is quite extensive, taking in Fort Erie, the lake, and Niagara river in the distance. The school in this department is taught by a lady of culture; her salary is paid by the Department of Public Instruction, and the school comes under its direct supervision. The school-room is furnished with blackboards, maps, organ, and modern appliances generally. The children are instructed in drawing, and are taught to sing by note. The smaller children have a kind of an infant school by themselves, in which they are amused by blocks and sundry other contrivances for their entertainment. On the first floor of the main building is the chapel, furnished with an organ and the usual accessories of places of worship. Services are conducted daily, by the chaplain of the institution.

The children were variously dressed, and appeared particularly clean, with their hair neatly combed. On date of visitation, August 25, there were thirty-one children in the institution; nineteen were girls and twelve, boys. The matron, Mrs. Susan Graham, furnished the following information: "The youngest child in the house is four years old; the oldest is a boy of thirteen years. The largest number of children ever in the institution at one time was forty-eight. Children are not retained after fourteen years of age. A correspondence is kept up with the children after they have been put out. A secretary has this matter in charge, and the children are encouraged to write themselves." As an instance of many cases of distress relieved by the charity, the matron related the following: "A poor girl had been in the institution some time; she was taken away by her father to keep house for him. He was a miserable drunkard. The girl at last got sick. We tried to get her back, and succeeded. I never saw a girl more pleased than she was to return. It was a constant expression of gratitude with her. She lived to be sixteen years old and died here."

In regard to industries, the matron remarks: "We teach our girls to sew on the sewing machine. At one time, all the girls' clothes were made by them. All the clothing used is made in the house. The old people do most of the mending and knitting. We made, last year, one hundred yards of rag carpet." Connected with the institution is a fine garden. The matron, in speaking of it, says: "We raise in the garden all the vegetables we use, and have beside sold about one hun-

dred dollars worth already. We are selling some every day, and still have all we need."

The girls' dormitory is a well-lighted, clean room, brightened with illuminated mottoes, which hang over each bed. It is furnished with single, iron bedsteads, with spring slats. The beds are covered with snow-white counterpanes. Adjoining this dormitory is the matron's sleeping apartment. The boys' dormitory is furnished with double bedsteads. The matron's assistant sleeps on this floor. The sick room is also on this floor, but is very little used, no sickness having been in the ward for four years, and no deaths having occurred among the children for five years. The house was found in excellent condition, and reflects credit upon all concerned in its management.

At the date of October 1st, 1875, there were in the Home eight orphans, nineteen half-orphans, and five children who had both parents living. Fourteen of the children were of native and eight were of foreign parentage. Twenty-one came from Erie county, and eleven from other counties. Eight were partially supported by friends, and twenty-four wholly by the institution.

The main building of the institution was erected about forty years ago, and is without any adequate system of ventilation. The material of which it is constructed is stone, and, with the exception of the Orphans' Ward, seems contracted and not entirely adapted to its present use. A scheme is, we are informed, under the consideration of the Board of Managers, for selling the premises at present occupied, and erecting a plain, spacious and commodious edifice, with all modern improvements, on a site owned by the Foundation, on Fourteenth street, near Jersey street.

This lot is elevated, having a dry soil and excellent drainage. It is situated amidst highly improved surroundings, having in its vicinity the city park, upon the beautifying of which large sums have already been expended. The site is an attractive one, and will become still more so when the trees now newly planted shall have attained stately proportions.

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN ST. JOHN'S ORPHAN HOME.

Buffalo.

This institution originated through the benevolent efforts of the members of the congregation of the German Evangelical Lutheran St. John's Church, stimulated by the zeal of their pastor, the Rev. Christian Volz. It was organized in March, 1864, and incorporated by special act of the Legislature April 14, 1865. Its affairs are managed by a Board of nine Trustees, of whom the Rev. Christian Volz is President. Its

work is carried on in two establishments, one in Hickory street, a Home for girls, and another on a large farm at Sulphur Springs, for boys. These will be spoken of separately.

The Home on Hickory street was first instituted. The lot upon which it is situated is eighty by one hundred and twenty-two feet, and there stood upon it at the outset the parsonage of the late Rev. Francis H. Guenther. This man was greatly beloved, and the respect in which his memory was held after his death strengthened the desire to perpetuate his home to the uses of God and charity. The brother of this worthy clergyman, a benevolent citizen of New York city, donated to this object the sum of \$2,000, and with this money the parsonage was purchased, and thus secured as an Orphans' Home. The house was immediately enlarged, and opened for the reception of inmates May 9, 1865. During the year nine orphans were admitted, the first two being children of soldiers who died in the late war. During the three following years thirty-one additional children were admitted. In 1868 it was deemed that a separation of the sexes should be made, and a distinct Home established for the boys. Accordingly a very judicious purchase of rich and valuable land, with a large building upon it, formerly a hotel, at Sulphur Springs, was made January 29, 1869, and the boys were transferred there.

In the rear of the house, on Hickory street, was erected a brick edifice, which contains the kitchen, dining rooms, dormitories, bathing and clothes-rooms. It is well constructed, heated by furnace, lighted by gas and ventilated by wall flues. Water is supplied from the city works. The drainage is good. This establishment is under the immediate charge of Sister Louisa A. Adelberg, of the Order of Deaconesses of the Lutheran Church in Germany. Upon application of the President of the Board of Trustees to the Mother House for a Sister, she was dispatched to America to take the charge of the Home. She had been for seventeen years, before coming here, working in hospitals, in children's homes, and other places wherever sent. The name of her Mother House in Germany is Neuendettelsau. It is situated in Bavaria, and was established by Pastor Loehe in 1854. The Order of Deaconesses was instituted by Theodore Fliedner, an eminent German Divine, in Kaiserwerth, on the 13th of October, 1836. Since this time their numbers have rapidly increased, and now they are to be found scattered far and near, tending the sick, training children, and trying to reform the fallen. From Sister Louisa we learned the following particulars regarding the Order and her own labors:

"First, we enter as scholars, then we are novices, and then, if we have done our work well, we are qualified to become Sisters. Some have to wait a long time, some a short time. I have been in America

six years. I receive \$125.00 a year to buy clothes and for gifts. We do not work for money. When the Sisters are unable to work they can go back to the Mother House, and remain there during their lives: but while away from it they are required to make quarterly reports. All the Sisters are at the disposal of the Mother House, in Germany, and must go wherever they are sent. They comprise ladies from the highest families."

In speaking of the capacity of the institution, the Sister said "We could accommodate altogether fifty inmates, or, if pressed, perhaps, sixty." At the date of visitation there were in the Home thirty girls and four little boys, between three and four years of age. The latter are kept here in consequence of their tender years. The average number of inmates is thirty.

A school is maintained on the premises taught by the Sister. The larger girls spend six hours a day in the school; the smaller, only three. The school-room is on the second floor of the building. It contains neat desks and the usual furniture of a school-room. The children are taught both German and English. The Home possesses a library containing about two hundred volumes.

Religious service is held morning and evening. The catechism of the Lutheran church is taught, also the History of the Bible. A Sunday school is held in the Home, and the children attend Divine service in the Lutheran St. John's Church on the opposite side of the street. A serious defect in the institution is the lack of sufficient play-ground. Good sense is displayed by the Sister in her methods of discipline. The usual penalty enforced for disobedience of rules, is that of limiting recreation to the boundaries of the house. Only in rare cases is it necessary to inflict corporal punishment, and then only for grave offenses.

At the time of visitation it was observed that one little girl, an invalid, was kept in a cot, while the other girls were sitting around her cheerfully working, and at the same time entertaining her with their girlish chat. Thus, while the little sufferer's wants were fully looked to, she was enabled to share the sympathy of her playmates and make one of their number. The children are taught to sew and knit as well as to do house-work. Three sewing and one or two knitting-machines are in use, and the children are taught to sew and knit both by hand and on the machines. All the clothing is made on the premises. The children wear woolen stockings in the winter, and have a very large supply of clothing. Besides doing the work of the house, the girls earned \$100 last year by working for the stores. This was earned in part by the knitting-machines. Yarn is furnished and the girls knit it into stockings at a given price per pair.

Each girl, when old enough to do so, makes her own bed. There

are forty-one iron bedsteads in use. The beds are protected on the sides with a strap or brace, thus allowing the use of a liberal quantity of straw. This is changed in the bed-ticks twice a year. Every two weeks there is an entire change of bed-linen, but the change is made in parts. Woolen blankets are used. The sick-room is nicely carpeted.

In the clothes-room two shelves and four hooks are allowed for each child, with her name and number affixed. Many of the little girls, true to maternal instincts, had here preserved with care, their dolls and doll-bedsteads.

On the second floor is a large bath-room. Connected with this is a room for shoes, each girl having a compartment for herself. The children bathe once a week, or oftener, if necessary; but more frequently in summer than in winter. The girls rise in summer at half-past five, and in winter at half-past six. The smaller girls retire at seven, while the larger are permitted to stay up until nine. Sister Louisa says: "We have no servants in this house. Our large girls must do the house-work."

The basement contains the laundry and vegetable cellar. In the laundry, on the day of visitation, were eight girls, aged from twelve to fifteen years, doing the washing of the house. The bread, which is excellent, is baked on the premises in a brick oven; and the children are taught to make it. The vegetables used in the Asylum come from the farm at Sulphur Springs. The farm also supplies milk, from which all the butter used in the Home is made by the girls. It was thought that the children could be maintained for \$7,500 a year.

Our visit to the Home was unexpected, and yet the Sister received us as though it were a day for reception. The children's hair was very neatly combed, and their faces were clean and bright. Their dresses were tidy and in perfect order. The windows of the house were transparent, the floors well scrubbed, and the clothes and closets in perfect order. In fact, order and cleanliness reigned supreme, and everybody was cheerful and happy. The good lady in charge, who had given up her life to this noble work, had no other associates in the discharge of her multifarious duties, including the care of an invalid and several small children, than the little loving hearts about her. It was evident, however, that she was overtasked and needed one or more assistants.

The department for boys at Sulphur Springs, about four miles southerly from the city, is under the immediate charge of Mr. John Muller, Superintendent, or House Father, assisted by his wife, the House Mother, or Matron. A lady assistant and two of the girls from Hickory street were temporarily helping her with the general housework. A farmer is also employed. The building occupied is a frame structure, three stories high and forty by sixty feet, having a

porch extending along its front. In the rear of the main building there has been recently constructed a frame addition, three stories high, twenty-four by forty-four feet. The building is surrounded with pleasant shade trees. It was dedicated to its present use October 11, 1868, and the boys were transferred from the Home on Hickory street in Buffalo, January 29, 1869. Twenty acres of land were first secured with the building, since which, additional purchases have been made, making in all one hundred and five acres, comprising garden, meadows, orchard and woodland. Between twenty and thirty acres of land are unsubdued. Two acres were planted in carrots, one and a half in onions, two in cabbages and eight in potatoes. Oats, rye and corn are also grown. Eight cows are kept.

At the date of visitation, August 24, there were thirty-six boys in this department of the Home, between the ages of two and fifteen. Two of the children were from the poor-house; one was suffering from curvature of the spine. They were aged respectively five and twelve years, and possessed of average intelligence. The county pays \$1 a week each for their maintenance. Another boy aged sixteen years has but one arm. In addition to the thirty-six inmates, there were ten boys in the city learning trades, who were partially supported by the institution, and who are regarded as belonging to it. They return when sick, and report to the Pastor in the city every Sunday on their behavior during the week. All the boys are said to have turned out well. One of them is now earning \$3 a day. Five boys, half-orphans, were reported to have run away from the institution. In regard to boys leaving, the President remarks: "Boys having relatives living are sometimes discontented, and want to be away, but those having no other home are glad to stay, and generally turn out the best. We do not know of one of our boys who has turned out badly. We never have had one in jail."

The chapel is a small separate frame building, and is used for school purposes on week days. It contains an organ. A Sabbath school is held here every Sunday afternoon. Morning and evening prayers are conducted; grace is said before and after meals. Six hours a day are spent in school, but no school is kept during the months of July and August. German and English are both taught.

The accommodations of the house are ample for even a greater number of inmates than it contains. The rooms are large, ceilings high, and the sashes of the windows hung with cord and pulley. The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads. One disadvantage under which the institution labors is that the cellar is damp and often flooded with water, owing to the construction of a dam near by which causes the creek to overflow. This was constructed against the wishes of the managers by an outside party. The cellar is used for storing

coal. Rain water is saved in cisterns. The boys are reported as being healthy, only one having died during the year. The institution is crippled for want of funds, and many needed improvements have in consequence to be deferred.

In regard to the aims of the managers, we have the following information: "Our object is to give a Christian education to children. It is a home for orphan, half-orphan and destitute children." In regard to the ages for receiving children the President says: "We take children here at every age. We have had even infants. We keep them till they are eighteen years old. Girls after leaving us generally go into families to do housework. Some get married."

In regard to the system of looking after children, the President says: "We had a system for looking after the children that had been put out, but could not carry it into effect. It was this: Each child had what we call a judgment-book, and every week this was submitted for inspection. It was found to be impracticable, for the reason that the masters and mistresses would not take the trouble to write it up."

At the date of October 1, 1875, there were, in both the Hickory street and Sulphur Springs departments, forty-two orphans and thirty half orphans. Six were of native and sixty-six of foreign parentage. They were mostly from Erie county. Three were partially supported by friends, four by the institution, and sixty-five in part by Erie county. During the year sixteen inmates were received; three were returned to parents or guardians, six left without permission, and eight were otherwise discharged.

The total indebtedness of the institution was \$11,000. Its expenditures during the year were \$8,495.54, of this \$1,684.92 was paid out for needed improvements.

The Lutheran Church deserves great credit for originating this charity and for the sacrifices that have been made to establish it. The conception of a home for boys away from the city, where they may devote themselves to agricultural pursuits, is a good one, and it is to be regretted that the property is so heavily incumbered with debt. It would seem that this burden should be lifted off by the charitably disposed, and the institution be thus enabled to go on more freely with its beneficent work.

THE GERMAN ROMAN CATHOLIC ORPHAN ASYLUM OF BUFFALO.

Buffalo.

This institution was formerly located at 221 Batavia street. During the past year a spacious and commodious brick edifice has been erected

on Best street, to which the children, forty-three in number, were transferred on June 1, 1875. The present building is a quadrangular structure, with a front tower and rear projection. Its plan contemplates the addition of parallel wings at each end of the main, with gables facing outward. It will accommodate at present about one hundred inmates and over three hundred when completed. Its location is high and airy. The lot upon which it stands adjoins the city park, and contains seventeen acres. It was formerly used as a cemetery. The selection of the site, and the building itself, reflect great credit upon its benevolent projectors and those who have worked so zealously for its establishment.

This Asylum was first established in 1852, and placed, December 8, under the charge of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters de Notre Dame. Its financial affairs are controlled by a Board of Trustees.

The Asylum grew out of the following conditions: The severe cholera season of 1849 threw a large number of orphans upon the charity of the members of St. Mary's Church for support. These were at first cared for in families of the congregation, and for several years afterward, when it was found that some permanent provision must be made for this constantly increasing class. On August 6, 1856, the Orphan Asylum was incorporated under the general law. The institution is now under the immediate care of five Sisters of the Order of St. Francis, Sister Mary Gabriella being Sister Superior. Orphan, half-orphan and destitute children of all ages, up to ten years, are admitted.

At date of visitation, August 24, there were in the house sixty-three children; twenty-four girls and thirty-nine boys. The youngest child in the Asylum was one and a half, and the oldest, a girl, fourteen years old. A school is maintained on the premises, and is taught by one of the Sisters. Early hours are kept, the children rising at six in the morning and retiring at half-past seven o'clock at night. The parents of a few of the children pay \$1.50 per week toward their support. Children, as soon as they are ready to leave, are discharged by adoption into families, or apprenticed to farmers or tradesmen.

The dormitories are furnished with single, iron bedsteads, each bed having a side-strap of iron, which keeps the straw bed in its place, and strengthens the frame. The asylum possesses ample bathing facilities, and the children are required to bathe once a week. It is customary to cut the boys' hair short. In one of the rooms in the basement, a little company of girls was observed ironing, under the supervision of a Sister, and in another, a band of little boys was piling up wood, with a manifest ambition to do their work well.

From Sister Mary Clara, who was in charge on the day of visitation, the following information was obtained: "We train the girls to do housework, and the boys to work in the garden. We have a man hired

to do out-door work, but keep no paid girls. We do all the work ourselves, with the help of the children. We discipline them by keeping them from recreation, or making them sit away from the others at the table. Sometimes we have to resort to corporal punishment. It is difficult in all cases to make the children mind, because so many of them come from homes where they have not received proper training. We have received children eleven and twelve years old, that did not know their *a b c*. I did not think, before entering upon this work, that there was so much to do. Parents, when they are not able to manage their children, sometimes bring them to us and ask us to take them, saying, 'I cannot manage this child.'"

A large number of the German people, of Buffalo, have made considerable sacrifices toward this charitable enterprise, and considering the valuable site the corporation has acquired, the commodious buildings erected upon it, the number of children that are now receiving moral, religious and industrial training under its auspices, the establishment of the asylum upon a more permanent basis may justly be regarded as a cause for congratulation by all interested in the welfare of homeless children.

LE COUTEULX ST. MARY'S INSTITUTION FOR THE IMPROVED INSTRUCTION OF DEAF MUTES IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO.

Buffalo.

This institution is located at 125 Edward street, corner of Morgan street, in a healthy quarter of the city. The following incidents are connected with its history. In 1839 Lewis Le Couteulx deeded a lot containing about one acre of land for the use of a Deaf and Dumb Asylum. In 1849 the heirs of this gentleman confirmed to the Right Rev. Bishop Timon the original benefaction. Having no means to erect a suitable edifice, the Bishop purchased several small frame houses in the neighborhood, and caused them to be moved on the lot in the spring of 1856. Three Sisters of St. Joseph assumed the charge of the new Asylum, and immediately opened a day school for its support, and to enable them to prepare it for the reception of mutes. In October, 1857, the instruction of the deaf and dumb commenced with four female pupils who lived in the house, and a few day pupils, whose homes were in the vicinity. The institution at this time struggled against financial embarrassments, and but for the active benevolence of Bishop Timon the work, we are assured, would have been abandoned. Those at first in charge received their knowledge of the sign language from a graduate of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum of Caen, France. Difficulties of a pecuniary nature again

arising, the work was suspended for about two years. In the meantime Sister Mary Ann Burke, a member of the Community of the Sisterhood of St. Joseph, was sent to the popular institution under the charge of the late A. B. Hutton, at Philadelphia, to acquire an acquaintance with the mode of teaching deafmutes which the institutions of the United States had adopted, and preparations for resuming the work were made. A four-story building, twenty-eight by thirty-four, with basement, was completed, affording a spacious dormitory, sitting-room, refectory, kitchen, etc., and the frame houses were converted into class rooms. In 1862 the instruction of the deaf and dumb was resumed, and has been successfully carried on to the present time.

The Asylum realized the most sanguine expectations of its founders in the rapid progress of the pupils. It is stated that, with but few exceptions, all had shown a desire for improvement, and many left capable of performing the duties incident to the practical business of life. The success of the enterprise was so encouraging, and the number of children seeking admittance so large, that the managers were induced, in 1867, to put up an additional wing. Subsequent additions and improvements have also been made, till, at the present time, the edifice has a front extension of one hundred and eighty-eight feet.

The building is lighted by gas, heated by furnaces, and supplied with city water. A Board of Trustees or Directors has the general management of the Asylum, and the Community of the Sisters of St. Joseph the immediate charge, Mother Mary Ann Burke, the Superior of the Community, being at its head. Fifteen Sisters, at the time of visitation, August 26, were engaged in the work, one or more having charge of each department. The Sisters have worked with commendable zeal in the interests of the institution, having spared no sacrifice for the cause, even contributing from their own means to its support, and to their devotion its success is largely attributable. The most recent visitation, of which several have been made, was that of August 26, 1875. The number of inmates at that time was seventy-eight, forty boys and thirty-eight girls. The average age was about thirteen years. The demands upon the institution are so greatly in excess of its accommodations, that a further addition has become an obvious necessity. Mother Mary Ann remarks: "We find ourselves in great need of room. During the past year the accommodations were somewhat enlarged by changes in the interior, but still they are insufficient for present requirements. We have found it necessary to increase the force in all departments. We take children from the county and from other sources. We now receive for county children \$300 a year. We take children from six years of age upward. Deaf mutes are supported for five years. Any specially talented receive aid for a longer period."

How far the dispositions of this class of defectives differ from those of other people is a matter of some importance, and the remarks of those who have had experience will be read with interest. On this point Mother Mary Ann remarks: "Deaf mutes are very sensitive, but this is in a great measure owing to their misunderstanding the intention of others. I tell them they must not judge from appearances, that it does not necessarily follow that there is want of interest in them if they are passed by without notice, as the person's mind may be occupied with something else. I do not think they are naturally more passionate than other children, nor are they more given to vice. I discipline them as I would ordinary children, by depriving them of little things in which they take pleasure. Severe punishment is never necessary. Many of them are self-willed, on account of their parents not knowing how to manage them. Instruction is the best means of curing them of this. You can appeal to their sense of honor. Should they get into violent fits of temper, we wait till this is over, and then tell them that they have no excuse for such manifestations. It is a daily work to endeavor to teach them to govern their temper.

"The studies pursued are the acquisition of language by means of writing, speaking and signs, general history, geography, grammar, mental and practical arithmetic, composition, penmanship and drawing. We teach the Visible Speech Method which was introduced by Professor A. S. Bell, of London. One of the Sisters and myself went to Boston and spent several months there learning his system. In the latter part of 1873 it was introduced here, and it is now a general study for all the classes. I think for the greater number of deaf mutes it is of little value, but for those who have lost their hearing through sickness, and can spend the time to acquire it thoroughly, it is a great benefit. It has nothing to do with mental culture. It serves to keep up the voice of those who have lost their hearing from four years of age upwards; but for those who have never spoken it requires a great deal of time to acquire it. They can be taught to say some words, but many deaf mutes do not seem to have any voice, and their efforts to speak are labored. In teaching it we draw a picture on the board, showing the vocal organs that are used in pronouncing each consonant and in pronouncing each vowel, then for any consonant the position of the vocal organ that is used in uttering it is adopted, and the same plan is followed in the case of vowels. The characters or alphabet in this method form thus a series of pictures. The eye becomes accustomed to these, and a mute who is practised in this system can, by watching a person's mouth while speaking, tell what he is saying although he cannot hear a word; and by recollecting how to place his vocal organs, can himself talk back, though still not hearing any sound." This is the theory, but Mother Mary Ann thinks "that by

writing and signs alone can conversation be sustained. The best speaker of this method that I ever knew of," she says, "was here once, and we could not converse together without the signs. I asked him if on going to church he could understand what was said, and he told me he could not. No schools that I have ever visited could do without the sign language."

The whole establishment was found to be in excellent order, and the system of housekeeping very thorough. It possesses ample bathing accommodations. The dormitories are furnished with iron bedsteads; snow white counterpanes cover the beds, each pillow having over it a neat white tidy. All sleep singly except the very little ones. The beds, it was said, are all taken apart once a week in summer, and once a month in winter and thoroughly cleaned. It is aimed to give each inmate a separate compartment for clothes.

The institution possesses a garden about three miles from the city, from which it obtains a full supply of vegetables.

The health of the inmates was good; one death had occurred during the year. The school hours are from nine till twelve, and from half-past one till four. The children work or play the remainder of the day. Dressmaking and tailoring are taught. "Many of those who have left us are doing," the Mother says, "remarkably well. The boys become good tradesmen and the girls good dressmakers. Children coming here have every thing to learn, and hence they require to be kept at school longer. The teaching of industrious habits we regard as all important. Especially is it important to teach them self-control." Twenty to thirty boys, on the date of our last visit, were engaged in making cane seats, others were learning to make coats. Four sewing machines were in use.

At the date of October 1, 1875, there were in the institution eighty pupils, six of native and seventy-four of foreign parentage. Sixteen were supported partially by friends, twenty-two by counties, thirty-four by the State, and eight wholly by the institution. The total amount of its indebtedness was \$10,687.

It is manifest that the Sisters engaged in this work take pride in the progress made by their pupils, that they devote themselves to the peculiar work with assiduity, and have spared no trouble to acquaint themselves fully with the most improved methods of instruction. The orderly and respectful demeanor of the children indicated the wholesome moral influence under which they were being trained; while the industries taught, apart from their disciplinary worth, must be of great value to both sexes in after-life.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF DESTITUTE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHILDREN, AT THE CITY OF BUFFALO.

Buffalo.

The history of the benevolent work which culminated in the establishment of this society, to partially outline which an attempt has been made in sketching the early struggles and financial embarrassments of the St. Joseph's Boys' Orphan Asylum (and continued in the notice of the St. John's Protectory), would, if fully written, form a most interesting chapter in the growth of charitable enterprise.

"The object of this society is to take charge of and provide for the support, education and training of such idle, truant, vicious or homeless children of both sexes, under the age of fourteen, as may be intrusted by their friends to its protection; and the children of Roman Catholic parents, between seven and fourteen years of age, who may be committed to its custody, by the order or judgment of any magistrate of the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Judicial Districts, together with those of like parentage and age in county poor-houses, and transferred upon the order of superintendents of the poor. It was organized on the 12th of January, 1864, and incorporated on the 25th of April of the same year, by a special act of the Legislature."

The affairs of the society are controlled by a Board of Managers of whom the Rt. Rev. Stephen Vincent Ryan is president. The boys coming under its jurisdiction are sent to its establishment, generally designated as the St. John's Protectory, located at Limestone Hill, in the town of West Seneca; and the girls to the House of the Good Shepherd on Best street, under the charge of the Sisters of Our Lady of Refuge.

The St. John's Protectory may be regarded in one sense as having grown out of the St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum, and is a part of the large system of charity under Roman Catholic direction at Limestone Hill. From a conversation with the Superintendent, the Rev. Father Hines, on the day of our visitation, we obtained the following particulars regarding its history:

"Bishop Timon coming to the conclusion that, in addition to the children properly belonging to the institution, we had a class of boys in the St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum who were fit subjects for a reformatory, and as this class was increasing and likely to exert an undesirable influence upon the others, he proposed, in 1862, to establish the St. John's Protectory. He said he would give me his diocese to collect money in. A number of liberal donations were made to us by individuals, and the State allowed us a grant of \$3,000. The Society for the Protection of Roman Catholic Children was incorporated in

1864, and such boys as were suitable subjects for the reformatory were transferred from St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum to the Protectory.

"The erection of the building now in use was begun in 1865 and completed in 1866. I was very much afraid to enter upon this work, but the Bishop assisted and encouraged me. We made the brick for the building ourselves. The edifice is fifty by sixty feet, three full stories high, with attic and stone basement. It was opened on the 14th of October, 1866. Since then another building of fifty by sixty feet has been added. In the spring of 1867, we commenced to build a chair factory. The idea of a chair factory was suggested by Mr. Patrick Barry, of Rochester. I was on a visit there and he took me to the House of Refuge. It seemed to me that it was a light and proper work for boys. Our shop was of brick, two stories high, one hundred feet long by thirty-two feet wide. In the rear stood a small engine and boiler-room. We had it going only about a year when it burned down, and every thing in it was destroyed. This was disheartening; but our managers and friends held a meeting and decided to build again immediately. We tried to save all we could of the old building, put a new roof on a part of it, and went to work and erected another building at right angles, in the rear of the present, two stories high, of brick, eighty feet long by forty-two feet wide. We had our works in operation in January, 1869. Since that time we have been quite successful. Just previous to Bishop Timon's death we raised some funds upon a mortgage, but it has never been paid off."

In regard to the disposal of children, Father Hines said: "If a farmer comes along and we think him a suitable man, and he wants a boy, we let him have one. I never force a boy away. I ask him if he desires to go. Where we find that a boy wants to go, and that a man wants to take him, he is pretty sure to succeed. We work off the boys as fast as we can advantageously. If we did not, it would soon take three houses like this to contain them. We work off forty or fifty some years. Farmers like boys of some size. They do not want to take very little fellows. They are given out under the direction of the Board of Managers. Their meetings are held quarterly. Applications for children are then presented. It is a part of my duty to receive applications, and inform myself as to the character of the applicant, and as to how he lives. Each case is considered. We generally bind the boys until they are eighteen or nineteen, and do not lose sight of them until they are at least eighteen years old. The party taking the boy agrees to give him at least two suits of clothes, and not less than four months' schooling every year. I am required by the Board of Managers to ascertain how he gets along. We assume the responsibility of seeing whether the boy is dealt justly with or not. If I hear that something is wrong about a boy I write to the Pastor of the place

to find out about it. Applicants for boys must come recommended by letters from the priests in their parish. The Bishop requires priests to have a special care over every boy. If there is any thing wrong the priest writes to me about it. A few weeks ago I got a letter from a priest in a distant town, telling me that a certain man was not treating his boy rightly. I wrote to the man telling him I wanted to know why it was that he was not treating his boy well. The boy I found was unruly; the man whipped him. He was a hot-tempered man. Perhaps he overdid it. They were out drawing hay, and the boy left the horses to go after a swarm of bees. The horses ran away and smashed every thing, and the man was angry and whipped the boy. I had a talk with them both, and they arranged matters. I heard from them since that they were doing well. I had a boy down on Grand Island. They neglected him, and never sent him to school or to church, and he had no Sundays, but had to work all the time. I wrote to the man and said, if he did not give up the boy I would sue him. I took the boy and gave him to another man. The excuse they gave for not sending him to school or church was, that the snow was too deep; but it was not too deep to go into the woods to draw wood. Some of the boys are returned to their parents.

"If a boy cannot obey here he will not obey outside. Even parents are refused in our Board to have their boys back unless they are fit to go. Recently certain parties complained because their boy was not returned. A petition was presented signed by prominent men to have the boy released. I found the boy's record was bad, and I found that there were no better facilities in his home for taking care of him than before. The question was put to the Board, and they decided to keep him. The Managers say any boy guilty of petty larceny should not be released in less than six months. To let such a boy loose in a month is to bring him back worse than he was at first."

In regard to discipline, Father Hines remarks: "The conduct of the boys is marked. Each boy is told when a mark has been made against him. The best boys are allowed white bowls and spoons, and knives and forks in the refectory." In the refectory the tables are classified, and as the boys improve they are promoted from one table to another. Father Hines remarks on this point: "No matter how small the punishment is, if it will effect the purpose, I use it. If I stand at the window and see a boy boisterous, I send for him. I say, 'now rest yourself on this cistern.' It is just these little ways that we use. In other cases I keep them in the school-room during recreation. If there is any thing hard to be done I send an offender to do it. Sometimes the Sisters may slap some of them on the hand. A bad boy is put in the dormitory, or he stays in bed all day. Lying in bed may be pleasurable at first, but it soon becomes painful. If a boy complains that he

is punished unjustly, I investigate his case. I always give him the benefit of the doubt whenever one exists. If you put a boy down absolutely, it is bad. It is better to make him feel that you have some confidence in him.

"A good many of our boys, now men, work in the city of Buffalo. I had eight or nine, with their wives and children, come to see me recently. They all had homes of their own. Some belonged to the Orphan Asylum and some to the Protectory. We have sent a number of boys west. About three years ago this past summer, one of these boys married a farmer's daughter in good circumstances, and the husband and wife have been here to visit me. Several of the boys have gone into the printing business; two of them are in Chicago comfortably off. There are three of our boys holding official positions in the city; two of them are masters of vessels on the lakes. I have lost sight of a number that have married."

Father Hines was asked in case of a stubborn boy coming to the Protectory, how he would treat him. He said: "Well he comes in, stalks around and says, 'I hain't going to stay here.' He is told to sit down. 'I don't want to sit down!' We let him have his own way and let him stand up if he wants to. By and by the boys come in; his appearance generally amuses them and they laugh at him. When he sees the other boys all sitting down, then he sits down too. He is asked, 'What is your name?' He will hold his head down and mutter something. 'Don't you think you would feel better if you had a wash?' 'I don't want a wash!' A Sister will come and try to take off his coat; 'Let's alone!' They will let him alone. In the afternoon or evening he will say, 'I want to go out.' He will go out and walk back again. By and by it is supper time. He will start up and want to go to supper. He will be put back again. Then the Sister says, 'You must wash; you are dirty and cannot go down in that state.' 'I am as clean as the rest of them!' The next thing, he gets his supper alone; a cup of tea or bread and milk. He washes at last. They have a terror of water and soap. Soon it is bed-time. He has a place given him in the dormitory. He is told to say his prayers. 'I will say no prayers!' 'Bless yourself! did you ever bless yourself?' 'I used to once.' He will kneel down and mutter something. The boys say their prayers and go to bed. He will straggle around, sure to be the last. He is told, 'There's your place, go to bed!' He will want to tumble in just as he is. A Brother will come along and make him take off his clothes and go to bed properly. So ends the first day. In the morning he is sure to be up in time. The Sisters won't let him down to breakfast. They say, 'When you get your hair cut.' He don't want his hair cut. A Sister comes around him and begins to cut it quietly. He commences to cry. She says, 'Don't cry! I will

fix it up nicely. Then I want you to come to the wash-room, and I will give you a good wash. You cannot have your breakfast until you are clean.' After a little he submits, and by noon he is in better spirits. When such boys have a good crying spell, they are sure to come round pretty soon. He wants to do something. He is sent to help carry wood up from the yard. He is glad to do this. Soon he wants to sit by the Sisters and talks with them. He steals gradually over by their side and begins: 'I saw a boy that was here before.' 'Did you? What is he doing?' 'He is living with such a man.' 'How did you come to get here?' 'I used to be out nights and got with such a boy, and took beer.' So he goes on and tells his whole story to the Sisters. In this way we work upon him, and he will open his whole heart to us. We try to reason with him: 'How good God has been to give you eyes to see and ears to hear, but instead of bestowing these in the service of God, you use them against him.' After a while the boy will submit.

"After four, five or six months he is wanted perhaps by his friends, perhaps by some one else. I ascertain what his record is, and also try to ascertain who it is that wants him. I can tell pretty soon what the home of the father and mother is when I see them. Sometimes I am satisfied to judge from their appearance, without going any further. My report of the boy, made up from his record, may run thus: 'Johnny has been in the institution so long. We find he did not avail himself of the advantages he has had. His standing is such that we think it is better to retain him in the institution. If we should restore him to his parents we fear he would fall back again.' This is given to the Board of Managers, who we find are generally satisfied to act in accordance with this decision. On the other hand, we might often find the boy fit to go out, but the party applying not being suitable, we refuse him the boy. It may be, perhaps, because it is evident he wants him only for some servile purpose. We mean to look after the boy's interest and keep him till the right opportunity presents itself."

In regard to the employment of time at the institution, and other matters, Father Hines says:

"The daily routine is as follows:

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| 5.30 A. M. | There is morning prayer. |
| 6 | " Study and recitation. |
| 7.30 | " Breakfast and various duties, read and spell. |
| 8 | " First division go to work in chair factory. |
| 9 | " Second division, small boys, go to work in cane room. |
| 12 M. | Dinner and recreation. |
| 1 P. M. | Study and recreation, writing, geography and catechism. |

- 2.30 P. M. Work in chair factory and cane room.
- 4.30 " Second division leaves off work.
- 5.30 " First division leaves off work.
- 5.40 " Supper and recitation.
- 6.30 " Study and recitation
- 8.30 " Night prayer and retire.

Our Sunday exercises are :

- 6 A. M. Morning mass.
- 9 " Religious reading.
- 11 " Catechism instruction.
- 2 P. M. Miscellaneous reading.
- 4 " Catechism instruction.
- 7 " Lecture.

Several of the Sisters are engaged in teaching in the school-rooms. From the beginning of the institution to January, 1868, the schools were taught by the Brothers, when, at the suggestion of the judge of Erie county, *ex officio*, a member of the Board of Managers, the idea of securing the Sisters to teach in their stead was adopted. He thought that "if they could teach as well as they could keep house, it would result in good schools and clever scholars." Two Sisters were accordingly engaged for that purpose, and the change has been attended with very satisfactory results.

During the year 1875, four hours a day have been devoted to the school. The Superintendent says : "It appears to work well so far, in securing closer application to lessons and good recitations by the scholars. Those who are strong and well advanced in their studies labor five hours a day, while those who are backward are required to work but three hours daily.

"The Sisters endeavor to make the boys do every thing in a systematic way. We endeavor to inculcate the following ideas : They must honor the school-room, because there the noblest part of their being, their mental life, is brought into exercise. They must honor the Church still more, because it is the house of God. We also inculcate the idea of the preservation of property. I now and then have a long talk with the boys about it. I say to them, 'you are bound to take care of the property of this house ; if you do not take care of this property now, you will not take care of your own by and by.' When a boy gets a new pair of shoes it is recorded, and when he wears them out he has to account for them. The same way with his dress, and thus a check is kept upon him which tends to make him careful. The boys make their own beds, under the superintendence of the Sisters. They have to wash their dormitories. The Sisters teach some of the boys to cook. There is one Sister in the kitchen for that purpose.

"We have eighteen milch cows. We buy our butter. We do not use very much tea or coffee.

"We have two or three colored children in this house, and two in the other, St. Joseph's Asylum, across the street. There was a colored child at the Poor-house, and when the various asylum people were there to get the children, nobody wanted to take him. I said, 'I will take the little fellow.' There was a little prejudice against him, among the boys here, but as soon as they found that the Sisters would fix him up and comb down his curly hair, it soon passed away.

"The parents of the majority are foreigners, Irish, English, Polish and German. One boy here lost his leg by an accident on the cars. About one-eighth of the children here have parents who contribute something toward their support. I think it costs about \$1.60 per week to keep them. We have more applicants for admission than we can accommodate."

Additions have been made to the original purchase of land at Limestone Hill, increasing the farm to about three hundred acres. Fifteen acres of this tract have been appropriated to the uses of the Protectory. The soil is a sandy loam lying upon an elevated ridge, about a mile from the shore of Lake Erie. About one hundred and twenty acres are in meadow land and a hundred acres in pasture. The remainder is in woodland excepting some twelve acres under garden cultivation, in which potatoes, cabbages and early potatoes are mostly grown. There is an orchard of about three acres of grafted fruit on the place. It does not, however, supply all the apples needed, as it is subject to lawless depredations.

The buildings are heated by steam, lighted with kerosene and ventilated by fire-places. Drinking water is supplied from good wells. Four or five cisterns are in use for preserving the rain water. It is intended to put tanks under the roofs and distribute soft water in pipes throughout the building. The drainage is imperfect; the bathing facilities are insufficient, but a building is now being constructed ample for the purpose. The children bathe twice a week, some once a day for a time. There are some children that have to be kept, for a time, away by themselves, being covered with vermin when they come in. The water-closets are detached. The washing and ironing are done in a separate building. The boys sleep singly on straw beds and on French bedsteads. One of the Brothers sleeps in each of the dormitory rooms. The dormitories are also classified, the good boys getting the best. The beds have white counterpanes. All the boys' clothing, including shoes and stockings, are made on the premises.

The vegetables are mainly stored in a basement under the barn.

In the work-shops is a thirty horse-power engine, and a large steam boiler. One of the boys runs the engine and has done so for two years

past. The work-shop is a perfect hive of industry. From sixty to seventy boys were caning seats, the smallest being seven years old. Two circular saws are running, attended by experienced adults. There are, also, among other machinery, two turning and three hand lathes. The work in the factory is done by boys with the exception of about five experienced instructors and workmen. Carved and well-made chairs of a variety of patterns, manufactured in the shop, were shown. The boys are not worked long enough in one position to have it become irksome; but as soon as a boy gets tired he is relieved by another. Thus the machinery is run uninterruptedly. All of the workmen are required to be of good character and habits. The institution, in addition to the Superintendent who is also treasurer, has three Brothers of the Order of the Holy Youth and Infancy of Jesus, and twelve Sisters of the Order of St. Joseph, of whom Mother Philip is Superior, engaged in its work. The Brothers receive, in addition to their simple clothing, \$30 a year. There is only one farm hand on the place. There were one hundred and forty-three children in the Protectory at date of visitation.

A chapel for the use of the inmates has recently been constructed near the Reformatory, to which they have access without going upon the street. It is of brick, plain architecture and tasteful in its interior and exterior decorations. The windows are of stained glass, the gift of different individuals, each window bearing the name of the giver. It is designed to accommodate five hundred and forty persons, and has been built at a considerable sacrifice on the part of those directly interested. It has long been a cherished project of the Superintendent.

The friends of this institution are considering the project of erecting some memorial to the late Right Rev. Bishop Timon, and subscriptions have already been made for this purpose. In view of the practical benevolence characteristic of the life of this distinguished prelate, it has been deemed that some expenditure which should perpetuate the good work he was so largely instrumental in inaugurating would be most fitting. It is therefore proposed, in case the means can be raised, to erect here a tasteful brick building, suitably adapted to carry on the shoe-making business, and to dedicate it as a memorial. It is estimated that the carrying out of this project would cost about \$12,000. It is hoped that this commendable undertaking will be successful.

The number of children that have come under the charge of "The Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catholic Children at the city of Buffalo," since its organization, is seven hundred and thirty-eight. The number of boys received during the past year was one hundred and three; the number of boys discharged during the year was ninety-five. Of these nine were adopted, six indentured.

fifty-five returned to parents or guardians, seven left without permission, ten transferred to other institutions, five sent out of the State and three otherwise discharged. The number remaining October 1, 1875, was one hundred and thirty-nine. Twenty-eight of these were orphans, forty-one half-orphans and seventy had both parents living. Eighty-eight were of native and fifty-one of foreign parents.

The total expenditure for the year ending October 1, 1875, was \$18,616.08. Its indebtedness at that date amounted to \$16,505.

It is difficult to estimate either the pecuniary saving or moral benefit to Erie county, and a large district in Western New York, wrought through the agency of this Society. The class upon whom it is asked to exercise its benevolence is an unpromising one, and yet it is believed that its efforts in the way of juvenile reformation are highly successful. In this view it would seem that the work should receive the substantial encouragement of the public in whose interest it is being carried on, and that a more liberal compensation for maintenance of the children than is now paid by the county should be allowed. The sum fixed, one dollar a week *per capita*, falls far short of the actual cost of their support.

ST. JOSEPH'S MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM,
Buffalo,

Is situated in the town of West Seneca, on the opposite side of the highway from the St. John's Protectory. The grounds about it are elevated and command a fine view of Lake Erie, the harbor, and the city of Buffalo. It is but a short distance from railroad stations, two leading lines of which connect it with the city.

This asylum was organized in August, 1849, and incorporated on the 2d of August, 1851. Prior to its establishment, an attempt had been made to provide a home for orphan and destitute boys at Lancaster, in Erie county. In 1849 this was broken up, and the children, forty-seven in number, were brought to Buffalo, under the charge of Father Early, and provided for on Best street in one of the buildings now occupied by the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity. In 1856 the children were transferred to Limestone Hill, where, for a time, they were under the care of a band of five Sisters and three Brothers. The Sisters belonged to the Order of the Holy Cross, and came from South Bend, Indiana. They were not, however, fully sustained in their good work. In 1857 the Right Rev. Bishop Timon, who, in addition to his large benevolence, possessed the rare faculty of just discrimination of character, selected from among his seminarians in St. Joseph's College, a young man then in his third year of Theology, and

ordained him priest, placing him over the St. Joseph's Asylum, which was then newly organized at Limestone Hill.

One hundred and five acres of land had been purchased at Limestone Hill for a cemetery. A part of this was set off for the Asylum, and Father Hines came here, as had been previously arranged by the Bishop, on the 7th of May, 1857, and assumed charge. There were then but sixty-eight boys at this place, and the building in use was a frame one. The following named Sisters of the Order of St. Joseph were delegated to assist in the work which was then undertaken: Sister Veronica, Sister Anastasia and Sister Petronella, the last-named since deceased. These Sisters entered upon their self-denying labors, receiving then, as is customary now, no pay, except an allowance of \$25 per annum for clothing, etc.

It is thought that a clearer idea of the work that has been done here in the past may be obtained by giving, in a connected form, the answers to the numerous questions asked Father Hines on the day of our visitation.

"The day we came here we did not have any thing but corn meal in the house. Sister Petronella went out to try and buy something. She went down to Martin's Corners, near here, but did not know the way back. While seeking for the road she met Bishop Timon in his buggy, and he said: 'My child, where are you going?' she replied: 'Bishop, we have nothing to eat and I am looking for something to purchase.' He got out of his buggy and put the Sister, with a little orphan boy that was with her, into it, and taking her basket directed her to drive home and he would soon follow. The Sister again lost her way, but the Bishop brought us the basket with something for the children and ourselves to eat.

"We commenced our work here in a small wooden building, twelve by eighteen feet, and lived in it six months. It was erected in front of the square wooden building that was here when I came. The little boys used to sleep over my head, and when they were disorderly I could touch the ceiling with my hand, and call them to order. The bishop next allowed me to go through the diocese and solicit money for the work. It took me a year to get around. I went about from church to church, and presented the condition and claims of the orphans to the congregation, and received the offerings of the charitable, coming home every week to pay the men. We soon set to work to erect a building, which is now the right wing of St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum, across the street. I noticed a man from Buffalo, drawing clay from our farm, and learned from him that he used it in making flower-pots. It occurred to me, that we might make our own brick out of the same material. We got some rude apparatus, and hired two men who were brick-makers, to manage the work; the boys assisted.

Of course we did not make the very best brick, and some laughed at them, but they made a very good asylum. I cared very little what was said. I tried to do what was for the best. The boys carried the brick away, drew sand and wood with a yoke of cattle, and did every thing else they could do. We quarried our stone near by. The building was three stories high, and forty by fifty, on the ground, and was occupied on the 1st day of November, 1857. It accommodated eighty children. This was the number we had at that time. They were principally orphans, on account of the cholera of 1856 and 1857. During that time, I think the people were more charitable than they are now. I think great public calamities tend to make them so. In those days I performed a great many funeral services. At every service the people gave something for the benefit of the orphans. In the summer of 1859, we were crowded with children, and at the suggestion of Bishop Timon, I made up my mind that I would go through the diocese again and beg. Rochester and Buffalo were then in the same diocese. Each priest gave me a Sunday in his church. I began on the 19th of June, and use to address the people morning and afternoon, and receive their offerings. Bishop Timon gave me \$2,000, and we set to work again making brick for another building on the premises. At the same time we quarried stone for the foundation. It was inclosed in the fall of 1859. It is sixty by seventy feet, on the ground, and forms the main portion of St. Joseph's Asylum. Preparations were made to have this work prosecuted vigorously during the winter, and we did all the work we could in the spring of 1860, and had it plastered and were occupying it in July of the same year. During this time, I made my little circuit to get money to pay the hands off, and went along that way. We introduced shoemaking here, and put up a large frame building north of this, forty by fifty feet, two stories high.

"In April, 1860, we employed a foreman and commenced the shoe business. We had at that time plenty of hemlock bark on our land, and we thought it a good plan to tan a little leather. We got a lot of tubs, set them up, and hired a tanner to come out from the city. We gave him three or four boys to help him, and so we began to tan a little. We were encouraged to put up a small frame building the following fall in connection with this enterprise, which did us good service. We tanned all our calf skins. It succeeded well. A year ago last November, our supply of tan-bark was exhausted, and its scarcity in this vicinity made it unadvisable to continue the business any longer. The work, while it lasted, was carried on solely by the orphan children. There were also a great many little boys, too young for this business, who made themselves useful in various ways; some in taking care of the cows, of which we had, in 1860, '61 and '62, about sixty. At this time we had a man who took our farm products daily to the city.

"After a while one of the boys grew up and attended to it for three years. He is now a wealthy man. His successor is working with us yet, and, by saving his money, has now about \$1,000. One of our boys married the daughter of a very respectable man in this neighborhood, and is doing well.

"Our place filled up rapidly during the war, and we went into gardening. We had a large garden, where we cultivated onions, tomatoes, etc. We put the boys to work at hoeing and weeding, so we worked along for some time.

"In 1866, Bishop Timon transferred a number of boys, who properly belonged to the reformatory class, to the St. John's Protectory, and thus this Asylum has since been enabled to devote its energies to the class that are more particularly the objects of its benevolence."

The financial affairs are controlled by a Board of Gentlemen, and Father Hines is still its Superintendent. He is assisted by nine members of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, of whom Mother Veronica is Superioress. This lady has shared in all the trials incident to the early struggles of the institution, and has labored throughout with a steadfast devotion to the poor children's cause. In an unpretending way her laborious and monotonous round of work goes quietly on, and though the world may be none the wiser, it is certainly much the better for it.

Connected with the institution is a farm of about three hundred acres, which gives employment to a considerable number of the inmates during the summer.

Shoemaking is still carried on to some extent. All boys of a suitable age are engaged in some useful work when not in school. Sufficient time is allowed for recreation. A school is taught in the institution by the Sisters. The boys are not kept long in the Asylum, but are placed out when homes can be found for them in good families.

The building contains large school-rooms, spacious dormitories, a chapel, and other necessary rooms, including those for washing and bathing.

The boys are taught to sing. They acquitted themselves very creditably in this accomplishment on the occasion of our visit.

The Sisters who are occupied in the St. John's Protectory during the day unite with the Sisters in the Asylum for evening prayers, and make their homes here at night.

This Asylum has, since its organization, cared for 1,027 boys. The inmates on October 1, 1875, numbered 118. The number received during the year was fifty, and the number discharged, thirty-five. Of these, seven were adopted, three were indentured, fifteen returned to parents or guardians, and seven transferred to other institutions, or otherwise discharged.

For children committed by the superintendent of the poor, the county allows one dollar a week. But this it is stated falls far short of the cost of maintaining them.

The total indebtedness of the Asylum was \$8,000. Its expenditures during the fiscal year ending October 1, 1875, were \$9,652.03.

Some repairs are needed, and improvements might be effected that would bring the Asylum into a higher condition of efficiency. In view of the large amount of voluntary service tendered, and the good work that is being accomplished, it would seem that it should be well sustained.

ST. VINCENT'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM,

Buffalo,

Is situated on the corner of Batavia and Ellicott streets. It is under the management of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity. The sole and absolute title to the property is vested in this community. The Asylum owes its origin to the late Right Reverend Bishop Timon, whose zeal inspired others, and whose personal efforts as well as means contributed largely to sustain it during its subsequent struggles. Twelve Sisters are at present engaged in carrying on its work, Sister Robertina Lenahan being Sister Servant, which office she has filled since 1854. No hired domestics are employed.

The institution was incorporated January 29, 1849. Two brick structures, about twenty-two by seventy-two, and fifty by ninety-five feet, respectively, are at present occupied, with a capacity for about one hundred and twenty-five children. The last-named structure was formerly St. Patrick's Church. The buildings are warmed by both hot air and stoves, lighted by gas, and ventilated by the windows.

The latest visitation was made August 26th. There were then one hundred and twenty-four inmates. The children were out for the day upon an excursion. Sister Robertina kindly furnished the following information regarding the growth and present condition of the Asylum: "The institution commenced in June, 1848. The Buffalo Hospital of the Sisters of Charity and this house were commenced the same year, under the charge of the Sisters of Charity. The institution began with three Sisters, viz: Sisters Anne De Sales, Anacaria and Mary Clare. The inmates increased in number daily. The cholera broke out in 1849, and the poor people required some place for their children. They were brought in here and were obliged to sleep on the floor. The rooms were small. This building was not erected then. They had a two-story cottage back of the present edifice, facing on Batavia street. They also kept a day school, but it was discontinued in July, 1868. Bishop Timon died in April, 1867, and the following vacation

we discontinued the day school. The number of orphan and destitute children was so great as to demand our entire care. The old church, called St. Patrick's, was given to us in 1855.

"We are very much crowded now. About one hundred and twenty-five is all that we can accommodate, and many are awaiting admission at the present time that we cannot take in for want of room. We need yard room very much. Our location is very unpleasant. The children's play ground is entirely too small. We have bought a place on Main street. The lot is not yet clear, only \$6,000 having been paid upon it. Our location here was formerly very healthy, but during the last three years we have noticed our children do not enjoy as good health. We have had eight deaths during the past year, four with scarlet fever and three with consumption. Our children generally range from five years old upwards. We seldom receive them under five, because the Infant Asylum is intended for that class. We take orphans, half-orphans and destitute children. Several at the present time have both parents living, but they would be just as well off without them. We take all classes that apply, without distinction of religion or social status. We desire to keep them long enough to make them useful young women, but if they have parents or friends who wish to take them, we let them go. It takes some time to train them to domestic duties. Again, it is very hard to get them instructed; some are so very dull that it is very difficult even to teach them to read. I do not wish to keep them any longer than is necessary to fit them for work in families.

"We never bind children out, but place them in proper hands so far as we can ascertain. If a child is not contented, or the parties are not satisfied with her, we take her back. If a young girl wishes to go to live out, or to learn any employment or trade, we provide for her. Most of them go to service; a few of them get married. We require parties taking our girls to treat them as their own children, and, if they stay long enough, till they wish to settle in life, to give them something; but it is very seldom they remain that time. We require reports to be made of their condition from time to time. The girls write to us very often, and thus we keep up a correspondence with them, while those living around the city the Sisters see. We have a society formed among our children while in the house. The girls retain their membership after they pass out of the institution, and are required to attend its meetings every Sunday if possible. It is a meeting for young girls. One Sunday we may have thirty or forty, the next not so many. The members are obliged to look after each other, and report to the Sister in charge. One reports why another is absent, and if she is sick, we go to see her. This is one means for looking after our girls. Our children generally turn out well. Some have gone astray,

and come back again like the prodigal son. As a general thing, however, we have very little trouble with them. In the last twenty years I think there has not been more than four that have not done right. It is very encouraging, because young girls nowadays are very hard to manage."

In one of the rooms of the Asylum is a photographic group of girls. These, Sister Robertina says, "had been at one time either in the house or were members of the Parish school and of this Society. Some of them are now Sisters of Charity, working in hospitals and asylums scattered from New York to New Orleans. We have one girl who was married last year, and who is doing well. She had been in the house eighteen years. When we have a picnic of those in the house, the former inmates, once girls, come and march out with them. Even when they are married they come here to visit, bringing with them their children.

"We aim to make our girls useful members of society. We teach them to respect themselves and that then others will respect them. We try to raise their thoughts above this low don't-care way of girls. We try to instil in their minds the principle that they must work and be independent. We say to them on leaving, 'If you conduct yourself properly you need never want a home.'

"We try to influence our children by kindness, mingled with firmness. For punishment, we put them to bed for half a day. If they are disobedient on Saturday, we do not let them out to church on Sunday. Not to let them out with others is the most effectual kind of punishment. They are accustomed to harsh treatment in their own homes, they do not mind that; but this method is new to them. If they are rude we make them stay up stairs in silence. We very seldom have occasion to use any corporal punishment.

"In regard to education, we teach them reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, grammar and history. We use the same text-books as are used in the public schools. The school department pays the salary of three teachers.

"The girls are taught all kinds of house-work, cooking, washing, ironing, baking, and plain as well as machine-sewing. Dress-making is also taught. All of the girls, as they are growing up, learn to use the sewing-machine, and those who have a taste for embroidery are instructed in it by one of the Sisters. We had a class in knitting, but found it too confining for the little ones, and the time of the larger girls is too important for this employment. The children make all their own clothing. They do their own dress-making and mending, and also make rag carpets. Each makes her own bed and does all her own work. The larger girls have little ones to help them. From about eight years old they commence to do some work. We change

every week so that each girl learns to do all kinds of work. All the house-work is done by eight o'clock in the morning. Sister Genevieve has had charge of this department for sixteen years. We bake some bread every day, but buy most of our bread. We give the children the same food as we have ourselves; soup, meat and vegetables, with bread and butter, every day. When we have plenty of milk, we give the children bread and milk. We have the milk from six cows. It is brought in twice a day. The children, every day at three o'clock, have a lunch, of either apples and crackers or cake, or something of the kind."

The dormitories are heated by registers in each extremity. Seventy-six wooden bedsteads are in a room which is forty by eighty feet. Beds for the Sisters, inclosed with neat white curtains, are in each corner of the room. Another dormitory for the little ones has twenty bedsteads in it, mostly wooden. The Sisters say: "We find very little trouble in keeping our beds clean. We clean one row every day, and every bedstead in the house once a week." Straw beds and feather pillows are used. The dormitories are kept with the utmost neatness, order and cleanliness. The counterpanes of the beds were folded back and looking down the long range, the folds formed a perfect line. The windows were down and the sunshine was pouring into the room on all sides, the fresh air from the open windows affording good ventilation.

The infirmary had in it one little sick child, about two years old. The house is so crowded that even the infirmary has to be converted into a general sleeping-room at night.

At the date of October 1, 1875, the number of children in the institution, who were orphans, was twenty-nine; half-orphans, seventy-four, and who had both parents living, eighteen. One hundred and two of these came from Erie county, and nineteen from other counties. Twenty-one were of native and one hundred of foreign parentage. Seventeen were in part supported by friends, seventy-nine partially by counties, and twenty-five wholly by the asylum. The whole number received during the year was eighty-five. The number discharged by adoption was ten; the number placed out was seven; the number returned to parents was fifty-two. One left without permission, three were transferred to other institutions, and nine died.

The total expenditure for the fiscal year ending October 1, 1875, amounted to \$10,574.97. The indebtedness of the institution, on the 1st October, was \$19,000. It has no invested funds.

Little comment upon this useful charity is needed. Its work speaks for itself. Since its organization one thousand one hundred and eighty-seven children have been received into the Asylum and brought

under its refining and elevating influences. It is greatly to be regretted that it should have to carry so large a burden of debt, and its field of usefulness be thus circumscribed.

ST. MARY'S ASYLUM FOR WIDOWS, FOUNDLINGS AND INFANTS.

Buffalo.

This institution is located at 126 Edward street, in a healthy part of the city, upon a lot with about one hundred and twenty feet frontage. The building is a plain brick structure, consisting of a main with two wings, standing thirty-four feet from the street, and having a neatly kept lawn in front. The land upon which it is located was donated by Louis Le Conteulx, Esq., a philanthropic citizen of Buffalo, in 1852.

The Asylum was incorporated January 13, 1852. The necessities out of which it originated are stated as follows: "Before its establishment, poor lying-in women and infants, orphans and foundlings, were obliged to be taken to the hospital of the Sisters of Charity in the city, as they could not all be received in the Orphan Asylum for larger children. It was painful to the Sisters in charge of the hospital to refuse admittance to this class of patients and children. They saw the necessity of opening a separate institution for them. Owing to the breaking out of the cholera in 1854, the hospital of the Sisters of Charity was crowded with patients afflicted with that disease. As the effects were serious on the lying-in patients, it was determined by those whose sympathies were aroused to make other immediate provision for them. Three frame cottages were put upon the Le Conteulx lot, and this class of sufferers were at once transferred there. Previous to this time foundlings were frequently picked up dying or dead on the door-steps, along the streets, in alleys and by-ways; but since the hospital was opened such cases rarely occur."

In 1855, the first wing of the Asylum was erected, having three stories. The central building has four stories, and was built in 1858. An additional wing has since been erected. Under the same roof, but forming a distinct department, is St. Mary's Lying-in Hospital. The whole is under the charge of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity, of which Sister Mary Elizabeth Sinnott is Sister Servant. She is assisted by eight other Sisters. Sister Elizabeth has been in this Asylum six years, and during the war was in the military hospitals, assisting in taking care of the soldiers.

At the date of visitation, the 20th of August, there were about ninety children as inmates. About half of this number were between the ages of three and five years, and the remainder were mainly

infants. The children, we were informed, are adopted whenever a good opportunity presents, but if remaining at the age of five, the girls are transferred to St. Vincent's Female Orphan Asylum in Buffalo, and the boys to St. Joseph's Male Orphan Asylum at Limestone Hill. Children of delicate constitutions are retained till six years old.

In regard to instruction the Sister in charge says: "The children are so young that about all we can teach them is, who made them, and the Lord's Prayer."

The institution keeps six cows for the use of the children. The milk of one cow is reserved for such infants as are being weaned. It is brought to the Asylum in a separate can night and morning.

The Infants' Asylum is divided into two departments, one for the nursing children, the other for older children. These are on different floors. The department for the nursing children communicates with the Lying-in Hospital, enabling mothers to come in at stated hours to nurse the children; but there is no communication between the older children and the Lying-in Hospital or with the infants. The mothers are as far as possible induced to remain to nurse the children. Each mother who is able must nurse two children, her own and one other.

Sister Elizabeth says: "It is found impracticable to provide as many nurses as desirable." There were about twenty at the date of visitation, and it was found necessary to keep from ten to fifteen children on cows' milk. "They are," says the Sister, "fed with the spoon, as we find it preferable to bottle feeding." In speaking of some of the cases cared for, the Sister said: "It is not long since we had to take in three women with their young children, who came from the city, their husbands abused them so. They had infants in their arms and had, we ascertained, other children sheltered in neighbors' houses. One woman had been going around from house to house, the husband having taken almost every article of clothing from her, and threatening to take her life. One of the others had two children and a baby nine months old. Her husband abused her shamefully. He is almost a savage. He came here to try to get her. The poor thing told me that she had not had a month's peace since her marriage till she came here. 'Unfortunate women' who come here are only received once. We tell them when they are in the house that they never will be received again."

In regard to the health of the children the Sister remarks: "A great many of the children die; they live in proportion as we can procure nurses for them. The Sisters are constantly on the watch to see that the nurses take the same care of the little ones they nurse as of their own. No money can buy their attention to the children, and they will neglect them unless you have a person there to look after them. We go in at all hours of the day and night to examine the

children, and see that they are not neglected. We require mothers to provide for their children as far as they are able. If a child is nursed for only two weeks and then weaned, it generally lives but two months.

"We have had to beg hard to get funds to improve the building. We have walked often twelve miles a day, collecting money from among the poor to help us in this work."

Our last visitation was made toward evening, when the children were preparing for bed. On entering we found twenty-one little children on their knees, saying, with upraised hands brought together, their simple, childish prayers.

The bathing facilities are ample; closets large and commodious were found on each floor, and in unexceptionable condition. Each child has its towel, which is hung on a separate hook in the bath-room. Under each of these is a little drawer containing a fine and a coarse comb. The children appeared well clothed and clean, and the dormitories, sitting-room, play-room and kitchen were found to be neat and orderly. In the rear of the building is a yard, planked in the center, for the purpose of affording the children air and exercise without dampening their feet. It contains a fine large shade tree with seats around it, and also a swing.

In the rear of the Infants' Asylum and Lying-in Hospital, is a large brick building recently erected for a laundry. It is conveniently arranged and constructed on modern principles, having good light and ventilation. The lower floor, twenty-five by fifty feet, is divided into washing and drying-rooms. The upper floor is the ironing department, a dumb waiter communicating with it and the lower floor.

The perfect order and scrupulous cleanliness, manifested not only in this building but in every department of the Infant Asylum and the grounds about it, are deemed worthy of special note.

The number of children inmates on October 1, 1875, was eighty-six. Of these forty-two were orphans, thirty-eight half-orphans, and six had both parents living. Thirty-six were of native and fifty of foreign parentage. Seventy-six came from the county of Erie and ten from other counties. The number discharged during the year, by adoption, was nine; the number returned to parents or guardians, forty-three; the number transferred to other institutions, fourteen, and the number who died was ninety-five.

The total receipts for the year ending October 1, 1875, were \$15,519.75. Its total expenditures were \$17,233.32, of which \$5,134.99 was for improvements. The amount of its present indebtedness is \$1,300.

As bearing upon the work of the asylum, we quote from the report of the medical attendant of the institution, J. S. Smith, M. D. "The number of infants and children admitted into the asylum, from January 1, 1862, to November 1, 1875, was 1,209. The number of infants

born in the hospital was 905, making a total of 2,114. Of these 1,080 have died, and 1,034 have either been adopted into families, transferred to other institutions when old enough to be educated, or remain yet in the institution. A large proportion of the infants attempted to be raised by hand have died, although receiving every possible care and attention that the means of the Sisters would allow as to food, ventilation, cleanliness, etc. It is very gratifying to state, however, that with better facilities and larger experience a greater proportion of infants are now being raised.

"For the children of two years old and upwards, the percentage of mortality has not been as great as in the city at large. During a recent epidemic of scarlet fever, only two deaths occurred in sixty-two cases. These results could only be attained through nurses possessing experience and willing to sacrifice their own ease and comfort to the welfare of the sick and suffering under their care.

* * * * *

"It gives me great pleasure," the doctor continues, "to testify to the cheerful perseverance and judicious management manifested by the Sisters in fulfilling the arduous duties they have taken upon themselves."

ONTARIO ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Canandaigua.

This Asylum stands on Main street, in the northern suburbs of Canandaigua, surrounded by a beautiful grove of forest trees. Its situation is healthful and pleasant.

The history of the Asylum is in part related as follows: "In 1862, the children left to public charity were generally placed in the poor-house, and fathers, who enlisted during the war, had no other prospect than this for their children, if left orphans and poor. In this state of things, the necessity of an asylum for children became apparent, and the benevolently disposed came forward and subscribed pretty liberally toward that object. A small legacy was also received. A building was purchased for \$5,000, one-fifth of the amount being paid down. The work was materially aided by a State appropriation of \$2,500. The services of a matron and a teacher were secured, and the institution opened its doors for the reception of inmates. It soon had twenty children under its care. People in all parts of the country became interested in the work, and so popular did it become, that in 1868, the Board of Supervisors of Yates county made arrangements to

send their dependent children to the asylum, thus removing this unfortunate class from the poor-house.

The edifice is a three-story brick building, having a basement and mansard roof. It is capable of accommodating seventy inmates, or, with the mansard attic fitted up, about one hundred. A wide veranda is attached to its front.

A Board of Lady Managers form the governing body of the Asylum. Each town sending children to the Asylum is represented in this Board. They are aided by a Board of Gentlemen, Trustees. The Asylum is under the immediate charge of a matron, assisted by two nurses, a cook and a laundress. A farm hand is also employed.

At the time of our visitation, July 9th, a pleasing impression was made upon our minds as we entered the house by the voices of the children in one of the rooms singing "Safe in the arms of Jesus," and by the flowers that freshened and brightened the hall. The school and reception rooms are on opposite sides of the hall; the dining, bath, washing and ironing rooms, kitchen and store rooms in the basement, while the upper floors are used for dormitories.

In the reception room is a small marble tablet bearing the following inscription :

"In memory of Miss Betsy Chapin, a friend of the orphan, 1867."

The school-room is a pleasant, well ventilated apartment, enlivened with suitable engravings, and furnished in keeping with modern improvements. The names of forty children were on the roll. The usual English branches are taught, the object system being used as far as practicable. The children are instructed in drawing. One of the scholars, a little boy only nine years old, had taken quite a fancy to this kind of work. Specimens of birds and various other objects which he had sketched without lines of measurement, were shown, exhibiting considerable proficiency for one of his age. The school hours are from nine to twelve in the forenoon, and from two to half-past four in the afternoon. Younger pupils are not kept in as long as the older.

The dormitories are large, with high ceilings. The window sashes are hung in modern style. The floors were clean, and the beds apparently receive due attention. The bedsteads are wooden and of the French pattern. The children sleep two in a bed. The matron, however, would prefer to have them sleep separately.

The boys and girls occupy the same dining room. One table is better furnished than the other, having a white linen cloth, and here those children who behave best, and are examples in cleanliness and tidiness, are allowed to sit. In fair summer weather the children take supper out of doors.

Fifty-one children have been received from county poor-houses during the past year. Seventeen of these were girls. Three girls and six boys

were colored. The ages of the children varied from three to twelve years, the larger number being between five and eight.

Thirty of the children were sick with the whooping cough, and one little girl, a new comer, while disobeying the rules of the Asylum had fallen over the balustrade and broken her arm, thus adding another to the sick-list.

About eighteen of the children had fathers or mothers contributing to their support. The sum paid was about fifty cents a week for each. This, however, is but a small part of the expenses, which average two dollars a week, per capita.

On October 1, 1875, there were in the Asylum forty-seven children. Of these six were orphans, thirty-five half-orphans, and six had both parents living.

In reference to the children, the Matron, Mrs. Anna S. Biegler, remarks: "Our aim is to teach them self-respect, to correct the idea which many of them have on coming here, that no matter what they do, they will be cared for all the same. We want them to learn to work, to attend school, and as soon as they are able to support themselves to go out into the world and work. I notice a great difference in the children who come here. Those who have previously been at the poor-house are by far the worst, and I attribute it to the demoralizing association of poor-house life." The Matron's opinion about the importance of selecting proper persons to have charge of the children, is thus expressed: "We do not approve of employing any but first-class, Christian nurses; they watch over the morals of the children. I believe in beginning the work of Christian education with children, as soon as they are able to understand, and by the time they are twelve years old, the effect of a good training will show itself. Our greatest difficulty is in eradicating tendencies to untruthfulness, which seem to be innate in many of the children. Not unfrequently, when uttering falsehoods, they will look at you so innocently and ingenuously with their bright eyes, that it is almost impossible to believe they are telling untruths, and it is often a very perplexing matter to know how to deal with them. It is next to impossible at first to get them to acknowledge their wrong doings."

The custom observed in placing out children is thus described: "Children that have parents are not placed out without their full approval, and this is often the occasion of much embarrassment. The mother does not wish to part with her children, and clings to the hope of being able to provide for them. Those at the disposal of the asylum are taken six weeks on trial, after which, if the parties are mutually satisfied, indentures are drawn. Only one case has been returned to the asylum since its foundation. Parties taking children are required to make reports regularly. The asylum has a Children's Commit-

tee ; its Chairman, Mrs. Callister, has visited every child who had been placed out during the past year."

The lot on which the asylum stands, comprises four acres of excellent land, a portion of which is planted with choice fruit trees. The place yields apples, cherries, raspberries and currants, and the garden, potatoes, carrots, turnips, onions and other vegetables. The yield of apples last season was fifty barrels. A number of domestic fowls are kept, and also four cows, which supply the institution with milk.

The drainage of the building is poor, and needs attention. The bath-room accommodations would seem to be too contracted. The washing and store rooms might be advantageously separated from the main building. Some improvements, it is thought, might still be effected on the grounds which, while they would add to their artistic appearance, would at the same time render them more in keeping with the spirit of this noble charity. When the bequest of \$45,000 of the late Mr. Post, of the town of Seneca, becomes available, it is expected that some changes will be effected which will enlarge the usefulness of the asylum.

A marked feature in the administration of this asylum is the promptness with which children are placed in families, the care taken in selecting for them suitable homes, and the regularity with which they are visited after such homes for them are found. By this means the dependent children are absorbed into the healthy portion of the community, thereby greatly reducing pauperism in this and the adjoining counties.

This asylum for many years was sustained almost entirely by the benevolent efforts of the ladies connected with it, and by voluntary contributions. Its management has been such as to gain for it the confidence of the people, and it is probable that the time is not far distant when it will become self-sustaining and the county be entirely relieved of any pecuniary burden growing out of the care of its dependent children. In addition to the bequest before alluded to, we are informed that another has been made by a gentleman who, once an orphan child himself, realized in his own experience the needs and benefits of orphan asylums. He has left to this charity his entire fortune which becomes available upon the death of his wife.

At the present time, however, it is asserted by the President, Mrs. Dr. Cooke, that the asylum is greatly in need of funds to carry on its work. Its total expenditure during the fiscal year ending October 1, 1875, was \$4,484.57, while its invested fund, from which an income is derivable, is only \$5,800. This should be borne in mind, and in view of the thorough work it is doing for the public, it should be liberally supported.

ST. MARY'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Canandaigua.

The St. Mary's Orphan Asylum was established in 1854, and incorporated under the general law, October 6, 1855. It formerly occupied a plain two-story frame dwelling on Saltonstall street. About two years ago it was removed to the spacious mansion and grounds of the late General John A. Granger.

The object of the institution is "for the care, support and instruction of orphans and other children who may need such care or instruction." It is under the immediate care and charge of five Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of St. Joseph, of whom Sister Mary Paul is Superioress. There are other Sisters of this Order connected with the institution who are engaged in teaching two parish schools, one for girls and another for boys. The former is kept in the asylum building, and the latter in another part of the town. There were no hired assistants connected with the institution.

The building is lighted by gas and well supplied throughout with water. The school-room is furnished with modern appliances. The dormitories and house generally were found, on the day of visitation, July 9, to be scrupulously neat and clean and well ventilated. The garden supplies but few vegetables. A portion of the fruit used is grown upon the place.

It is intended to take children at all ages under fourteen years. They receive a good education in the Asylum, and "when the Sisters have confidence that they are perfectly trained and fit to go, they are placed out, but not before the ages of fourteen or fifteen years." They have the privilege of coming to the Asylum once a month and spending a Sabbath with the Sisters.

At the date of visitation, October 1, 1875, there were seventeen children in the Asylum. Thirteen of these were orphans and four were half-orphans. Three of the children had native parents and fourteen had foreign parents.

The number of children cared for by the Asylum, since its organization, was 203. The number admitted during 1875 was five, and the number discharged, six.

The expenditures during the fiscal year ending October 1, 1875, were \$1,968.75. Its indebtedness was \$3,400.

The Asylum is sustained by voluntary contributions. The Sisters appeared to be zealous in their work, and the influence to which the children are subjected is believed to be highly elevating.

ORPHAN HOUSE OF THE HOLY SAVIOUR.

Cooperstown.

In a spacious family dwelling-house, by the shore of the beautiful lake of Otsego, are gathered, from the county poor-house and desolate homes, a band of twenty-eight little children. Most of these, on their arrival here, presented all the traits of children whose early years had been neglected. Some had become soured and apathetic; some perverse and morose; the natures of others had, by the corrupting influences of pauper and criminal associations, been corroded into forbidding angularities. But under this hospitable roof a beneficent change has been wrought in these susceptible natures. They have been brought to feel the warmth of true love and the benign workings of Christian teaching.

The Orphan House is situated on the borders of the quiet village of Cooperstown, opposite the village cemetery and Mount Vision, commanding a view of the bold and picturesque scenery which surrounds it, and which has been rendered familiar, alike to visitor and stranger, by the pen of America's great novelist.

The necessities out of which the institution originated may be stated as follows: In 1869, and the few years previous, it had been painfully evident to those interested in orphan and destitute children that an Orphan house and Industrial school for the relief of this class in Otsego and adjacent counties, was greatly needed. Miss Susan Fennimore Cooper used the following language in describing the condition of the poor children at that period: "Until now the poor-houses have been their only resource, and they have been exposed to the constant evil examples of the older paupers, too many of whom are men and women of the very worst characters and habits. They are scantily fed, clothed and sheltered, with schooling for less than half the year, usually from three to five months. These are the benefits they receive. On the other hand, they are not taught the great lesson of work. They have no moral or religious teaching beyond one hour on Sunday, when they are possibly, though not necessarily, taught by volunteer instructors from the neighborhood."

The importance of this work was brought to the attention of the benevolent of Cooperstown and elsewhere, and through the untiring zeal of Miss Cooper a beginning was made in this large field, which is even now but partially occupied. The Orphan House of the Holy Saviour, having for its object to provide a home and industrial school for orphan, half-orphan and destitute children, was incorporated by special act of the Legislature in 1870. It is under the patronage of the Protestant Episcopal Church of the Diocese of Albany, and the

special guardianship of Miss Susan Fennimore Cooper, who devotes to it a great part of her time, and who has made for it large personal sacrifices. Its immediate charge is assigned to Mrs. E. M. Stanton, who resides at the home, and who is assisted by her daughter. Both are ladies of culture and well adapted for this important work.

At the date of visitation, July 30th, the following interesting snatches of history were ascertained from the teacher, of six children who had been taken from the county poor-house, and who were brought at our desire under our special observation:

1. A little boy "from a very low family. His father died of dissipation. The child has been in the home a year; is one of our most obedient boys. He ranks among those who take the best care of their clothes."

2. A little girl. "Her father is not known. Her mother was so profane that they could hardly endure her in the county house. This little girl is very promising, very affectionate, sings any thing, and learns rapidly."

3. A little boy. "He was brought to the Home on a pillow. The physician had given him up. He was covered with scrofulous eruptions and obliged to eat his meals in a dark corner. We commenced giving him baths, and very little medicine, but gave him nourishing diet. Now he is a bright boy with clear eyes and an intelligent countenance. He learns rapidly, is a close observer, and although near-sighted sees much quicker than many who have the full use of their eyes."

4. A little girl, sister to No. 1. "She is a delicate child, not so promising as her brother."

5. A little girl. "She is one of the most obedient children in the house. She will not recognize any of her relatives, which is something very unusual."

6. A little colored girl, called by the teacher, "Sunshine under a cloud," from her very pleasant disposition.

The average age of the children in the house was about eight years. Six of them were under three years old.

The following information regarding the institution, was obtained from Miss Cooper:

"We would gladly take all the children from the county-house to our institution, had we room for them. Our house can only accommodate thirty children. We have no building of our own, as yet. We took six children from the county-house last winter, and shall probably have room for two or three more this year. We agreed to take from the supervisors all that we had room for, but we shall not have over three other vacancies this year. We rent the house which we occupy, with its garden, for which we pay \$350 a year.

"The children have three hours of schooling every morning. In

the afternoon, the girls sew and do housework, while the older of the boys work in the garden, under an old man who has charge of it. We have a paid woman in the kitchen, also a woman who comes to wash two days in the week. We find all that is needed for thirty children. We keep them till the age of fifteen, if desirable, and then place them in good homes."

Miss Cooper, on being asked whether she thought it better to place the children in families as soon as possible, or to keep them in the asylum till they were of a certain age, said: "I think both courses ought to be adopted. The utmost care should be taken, as regards the families into which they are placed. There are very many private families where there is very little home-like character, and there are public institutions that have a great deal. It is better to keep children longer in such institutions than to place them in families where they will not be properly treated.

"In our institution we teach the children to consider themselves as brothers and sisters, and try to make them feel at home with us. We are very particular about their morals.

"Our institution is for orphans, half-orphans and destitute children. If they are half-orphans, we try to cultivate affection for the remaining parent, teaching them that it is their duty to help such in times of need, and especially during sickness and old age. We teach them to pray for their parents, and constantly inculcate the general principle that they must do what they can for their parents, even when they are bad. We are not unnecessarily strict with our children in every little minutia. I think this is one cause of the difficulty in England. They establish most admirably arranged asylums and orphan homes, but they are exceedingly strict in all matters of detail, and when the children leave the institutions and return to their own families, where every thing is loose and lax, there is a reaction which proves disastrous to the children.

"When children leave us we endeavor to get them situations in respectable families. In some cases where we have children of uncommon promise, we ask them to be left with us, and we take the whole charge of them for a time. The great object we have in view is the formation of character and industrial habits. These are the two things that we look to most of all. We have now two or three bright children who will probably become teachers, and we keep that in view in their education. Some will learn trades. Others will go out into families to do housework. In some cases families wish to adopt them, and we consent to it if we see they are suitable parties. Every afternoon the girls sew, and we hope that every girl who leaves the home at the age of fourteen, will be able to make her own clothes, at least. They also learn to knit. They, of course, make their own beds, sweep, wash,

iron and make bread. We had some excellent bread baked by a girl of fourteen, which was exhibited at our last examination. When we have a new and larger building, we shall probably have a trade taught on the premises."

In regard to discipline Miss Cooper says: "Our system is to blend firmness and kindness together, and when this principle is acted on faithfully it is pretty sure to succeed. We have always found it so, and we have had some quite wild ones to manage. I had a specimen in a little boy about six years old. The lady who sent him to me said he had been in her house six weeks and had not minded her once. We bore with him at first. If you said 'Charlie, you must not do that,' he would go straightway and do it. I would call him, 'come here, Charlie,' he would walk right away. 'Charlie, keep your seat,' he would stand up immediately. He was a very troublesome child, and was looked upon as a regular 'black sheep.' After he had been at the Home for about two months, he seemed all of a sudden to change. The change seemed to come upon him almost miraculously. It worked so well that at the end of three or four months he was like the other children, and is now one of the best boys I have—the most obedient. I think there is a great deal in the atmosphere of the house, and as I have said, in the blending of kindness with firmness. We never had one who has not come round by this method."

On being asked if she thought all children could be reformed, Miss Cooper said: "I believe that any child under fifteen years of age can, with proper Christian influences, be reformed. I have had a girl at our Orphan Home who came from a very bad family. I shrank very much from taking her on that account. She was badly spoken of as regards honesty, and I almost trembled to take her on account of her influence on the other children. She is now doing exceedingly well, and her name is read out at every examination as one of the most trustworthy and honest of our girls. We have a practice of reading before the Trustees, at our yearly examination, the names of the best worker, the best bread maker, the best sewer, etc. The matron marks for family life, and the school teacher for school life, and these marks, good and bad, are all read before the Trustees at the end of the year."

In regard to the aim held in view in educating the children, Miss Cooper says: "We endeavor to give our children an industrial education. We deem this very important. We do not think it necessary to teach Latin, Greek, French and German to all. We aim to give them a plain, practical, English education, good so far as it goes. But if there are any bright children, who have capacity to go on, we afford them every opportunity to do so."

The children looked bright and happy and were particularly clean and neat in their personal appearance. An air of contentment was

manifest in their demeanor, and they seemed to be on the alert to obey through a seeming regard, if not love, toward those caring for them.

The appointments of the house throughout were orderly, and an air of sweetness and purity, such as is peculiarly characteristic of a Christian home, seemed to pervade it. The floors were clean. Snow-white counterpanes covered the beds. The house was thoroughly ventilated, and throughout the rooms were distributed illuminated cards with mottoes, which not only appealed to the æsthetic nature, but inculcated order and moral sentiments. A retrospective thought of the former wretchedness of the little ones here congregated forced upon the mind the blessedness of that Providence that had brought them under such elevating and refining influences, and an earnest hope was awakened that the little company of children, seen the day previous amidst the degrading associations of the county poor-house, might soon, through the exercise of a wise benevolence, be permitted to share similar advantages.

The number of children in the institution, October 1, 1875, was twenty-eight. Of these five were orphans, twenty half-orphans, and three had both parents living. Twenty-three were of native and five of foreign parentage. During the past year twenty-two children had been received and thirteen discharged. The expenditures for the year amounted to \$2,895.59.

A great need seemed to be felt for a larger building. "We are compelled," says Miss Cooper, "to refuse to take between fifty and a hundred children a year. So many families have been deserted by their fathers that we have always a number of applicants whose parents are still living. Husbands desert their wives, leaving them with four and five children. The women come to me and say, 'We cannot struggle under this burden. We do not want to send our children to the poor-house. Can you not take one or two of our children? We are willing to work.' But we are obliged to turn them away for want of room."

It is proposed to erect a new building as soon as means can be provided for this purpose. A tract of land containing 15 acres eligibly situated near the village, has been secured and paid for. A plan has been drawn for a building to cost \$15,000, which will accommodate eighty children. The same design may be enlarged so as to comfortably provide for one hundred and twenty. The project of erecting a suitable asylum building is a heartfelt desire on the part of Miss Cooper and those co-operating with her.

It was gratifying to see the daughter of one of America's greatest writers in the very spot which had given birth to numerous productions of her father's gifted pen, engaged in so noble a work for the outcasts of society, thus sanctifying by her self-denying Christian life the place which the genius of her father had immortalized. It was

sad, however, to reflect, that while there existed a large and urgent field of labor in her immediate vicinity, this lady should be restricted in her beneficent work merely from lack of funds. It is believed, however, when what is now stated becomes more generally known, that out of a grateful sentiment felt toward the father by those who have enjoyed the rare intellectual treats from his labors, the means will be forthcoming to erect in the village of Cooperstown a tasteful and commodious edifice, where the daughter may be permitted to carry on her self-sacrificing work in an enlarged field of usefulness.

ST. MARY'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Dunkirk.

This Asylum is located on Buffalo street, Dunkirk. Its object is "to provide a home for orphan and destitute children." The inmates are exclusively girls. It was organized in 1857, and incorporated January 11, 1858. The building at present occupied is a frame edifice of two and a half stories, measuring forty by seventy feet. It was formerly a private residence, purchased in 1864. In the rear of the main building is a two-story frame structure, the upper part of which is used for a children's dormitory, and the lower for kitchen and wash rooms. The lot upon which the building stands is one hundred and twenty by sixty feet.

The institution is under the immediate superintendence of Sister Anastasia Donovan, a lady of large experience, nineteen years of her life having been devoted to the care and instruction of children. She was one of the first of the Sisters who undertook the task of teaching the boys in St. Joseph's Orphan Asylum, at Limestone Hill, near Buffalo. She is assisted in her work by three other Sisters, all belonging to the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph. There are seven others of this Order, connected with the Asylum, who are engaged in teaching two parish schools in the town; one composed largely of children having American parents, and the other of children of German parentage.

The average daily attendance in the two schools is about four hundred and fifty. The Board of Education makes the Asylum a small allowance for the instruction rendered the Asylum children, of which, at the date of visitation, July 15, there were fifteen, ranging in ages from six to fourteen years. The Asylum is supported mainly by donations and voluntary contributions. A small income is also derived from the sale of needlework, which the Sisters engage in after school hours. Sister Anastasia says: "We are very particular to see that

children are placed in good families, when they leave us, and not to lose sight of them after they are placed there."

The children are taught to sew, and the larger girls "alternate weekly in the kitchen to learn housekeeping." At the time of visitation a few of the older girls, who had evinced a musical talent, were being instructed, by one of the Sisters, on the piano.

The institution is apparently managed with rigid economy. A careful inspection showed its scrupulous neatness and order. The furniture in use is somewhat out of repair. But the Sisters contemplating building a new asylum, have been carefully husbanding their resources for that purpose. A lot of sixty acres of land, about a mile south of the present asylum, has already been purchased, where it is intended to erect a new edifice. It is an eligible site, possessing good soil. From this property all the fruit, vegetables, butter and milk used at the asylum is supplied. The farm cost \$6,000 and is free from incumbrance—\$5,000 having been very discreetly saved by the Sisters toward the new building. In the expectation of receiving about \$10,000 out of a bequest made by H. J. Miner, Esq., a former resident of Dunkirk, it is contemplated to commence next spring the erection of a plain, commodious, brick building, on the farm, as a home for orphan and destitute children.

The large number of people in humble circumstances residing here, afford a wide range for the exercise of benevolence, and this field is likely to be still further extended owing to the recent depression of certain local manufacturing interests.

SOUTHERN TIER ORPHAN HOME.

Elmira.

The early history of this institution may be thus stated. During the late war the city of Elmira having been designated as a military depot, a great number of soldiers' wives and children were gathered there, some of them in very destitute circumstances. While every effort was being put forth for the care of soldiers in the field, no adequate provision was made for their wives or children, who, like themselves, were equally sufferers by the war. For the protection of this class an association was organized, October 12, 1864, under the name of the Elmira Ladies' Relief Association. A suitable building was secured and contributions solicited which were readily forthcoming. Women were provided with work, and the sick and children cared for, in addition to ministering to the soldiers in the hospital. In January, 1865, a small piece of land, with a house upon it, was purchased, a

matron with her assistants was secured, and the house thrown open to children. It was soon filled to its utmost capacity. The charity was liberally sustained by the people of Elmira and the surrounding country. Entertainments of various kinds were given to raise funds for its support, and furniture and other necessities were cheerfully donated. A large number of benevolent ladies of Elmira identified themselves with the work, and have continued to be the warm friends of the institution. The original building was enlarged from time to time, and was a means of affording care and relief to multitudes of suffering women and children.

After the close of the war the number of soldiers' children decreased, but it was found that there were large numbers of children equally destitute, who belonged to another class. To meet this necessity it was decided to change the existing organization so as to widen its sphere of usefulness. It was accordingly re-organized, the name being changed to that of the Southern Tier Orphan Home, and incorporated, February 14, 1868, under the provisions of the general act. In 1868, an addition of about three-quarters of an acre of land was made to the previous purchase, making the lot now owned by the Home about two acres.

The Home is situated on the corner of Franklin and Fulton streets. Its field of labor has been so rapidly extending that an attempt has been made to raise an edifice of suitable dimensions to meet the increased demand. At the date of visitation July 28, a large and commodious brick edifice, three stories high, with basement, having a ground floor of one hundred by fifty-four feet, was being erected in the rear of the present frame Asylum building, which it is intended hereafter to remove. The new structure was ready for a slate roof, but in consequence of lack of funds, the managers thought it would be necessary either to suspend work or to mortgage the property for \$10,000 to complete the design, and render the building fit for habitation. It is to be heated by furnaces and ventilated by flues in the walls. The ceilings are high, halls wide, and windows large. The edifice, as a whole, promises to be well adapted to its uses and capable of meeting all present demands.

The institution is managed by a Board of Ladies, numbering eleven. It is under the immediate charge of Mr. Duncan, Superintendent, assisted by his wife as Matron. The teacher, Miss Mary S. Preston, is employed by the Department of Public Instruction of the city of Elmira. This lady acts as Corresponding Secretary, and devotes a large share of her leisure gratuitously to the interests of the institution. The school is in a separate building. Children of neighboring families are admitted, and are taught with the Asylum children. They are instructed in the ordinary branches of an English education, and

THE LOCKPORT HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS,
Lockport.

The Lockport Home for the Friendless originated in a society known as the "Ladies' Relief Society and Home for the Friendless," which was organized in 1865. During the six years preceding October, 1871, the society had received from donations, concerts, etc., about \$1,250 in cash. Of this sum, \$600 was invested in a permanent fund, the balance having been disbursed. The society, in addition, had material remaining valued at \$116.

On the 8th of February, 1871, The Lockport Home for the Friendless was incorporated, and the means and materials of the former society were transferred to the use of the new organization. Subsequently, the Board of Supervisors appropriated to this corporation the sum of \$3,473.47, upon condition that a like sum be raised by voluntary contributions, and that an asylum or home be at once established. The sum required to be raised was promptly subscribed by the citizens of Lockport and Niagara county. In December, 1871, the trustees of the Home purchased a commodious private residence on High street, attached to which are two and a half acres of ground stocked with apple, pear and other fruit trees. The location is elevated and the surroundings are pleasant. The building stands a little apart from the street, has a goodly-sized grassy lawn in front, with abundance of shade. It is a two-story, frame structure, with a wing extending rearward. The building is heated by furnaces, lighted by kerosene, and supplied with rain and well water.

The financial interests of the Home are controlled by a board of nine trustees. Its internal affairs are managed by a board of directresses, numbering twenty-five. The domestic and other concerns of the Home devolve upon the matron. It is required that she shall be a "professed believer in the doctrines of the Bible, and competent to give religious instruction to the children. She shall abstain from all sectarian teaching."

There were in the Home four adult females at the date of visitation, August 23, and thirteen half-orphan children. One of the adult inmates, who assists in the work of the house, is a female, aged thirty-five, the mother of two of the children. Children are received from the age of two to nine years. One dollar a week was paid by parents or friends toward the board of five of the children. One of the adult inmates, who was about fifty years of age, did not seem to be a fit person for the companionship of children. It was stated of her that she was "somewhat out of her mind." She was excited at the time of visitation. The matron says "her mind has never developed any since

she was seven years old. She gets out of patience at times and uses bad language. I never allow her to get very bad, however. We have to watch her closely, but she breaks out occasionally."

Seven is the largest number of children that have been beneficiaries of the institution at any one time, until the past summer.

The financial affairs of the Home seem prudently managed. Its total expenditures for the year ending October 1, 1875, were \$1,108.93. It has an invested fund of \$600.

Niagara county presents a large field for charitable work. The amount disbursed for public relief here is very large, and it is believed that a building, such as the Home now occupies, might possibly be filled with indigent old ladies, but undoubtedly could be fully occupied with destitute children. This being the case, the question naturally occurs whether it would not be better to classify the inmates in separate establishments and devote the asylum at present in use to the care of children solely. At the date of November 5, 1874, there were twenty-seven children in the Niagara County Poor-house, showing that a large number of this unfortunate class are thrown upon the public in this county. An examination of these children revealed the fact that all of them, save one, were proper subjects for asylum care. It would seem that if county officials were relieved of the burdensome task of procuring homes for children, and that such children as it was proper to place in families, were at once committed to asylums by the Superintendent of the Poor, a great amount of good might be accomplished by the benevolent interested in such work, by clothing and preparing the children for families, finding good homes for them and by subsequently looking to them after homes have been found. There is a field for benevolent work in behalf of children in Niagara county, and it would, no doubt, be gratifying to the public, as also the charitably disposed, who have already made considerable sacrifices in this direction, if the large number of influential persons who carry on the work of the Home of the Friendless, should direct their benevolent efforts to this grand object.

THE WARTBURG ORPHANS' FARM SCHOOL OF THE EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH,

Mt. Vernon,

Is located in Westchester county, on a farm of one hundred and twenty acres, with a suitable building for the accommodation of about seventy children. It is under the patronage of the Lutheran Church.

and affords a beautiful illustration of the family system in orphan asylum life.

The institution was visited October 26th, and from the Resident Director, Rev. George Charles Holls, the following information in regard to its origin, work, etc., was obtained: "The property was purchased from the Five Points House of Industry for \$32,000, and the building now in use cost an additional \$54,000. Previous to the time of its purchase, Dr. Lewis, a Lutheran clergyman, in passing through the streets of New York, saw so many destitute children there that he thought an institution for their care was greatly needed. Soon after, he met Mr. Peter Möller, who was at the time contemplating erecting a memorial to his son, at a cost of \$30,000. The claims of orphans being set before him, his sympathies became aroused in their behalf, and he proposed to pay for a part of the building of this house if we would raise money enough to buy the farm. This was agreed to, and in about two weeks the sum of \$25,000 was collected in the city of New York. The property was subsequently secured, and I was called here to assume charge, which I did in September, 1866, taking with me five children from the institution at Zelenople, to form a nucleus. There was then an old house on the place which we occupied for four years. We entered our present building in 1870. Of the \$54,000 expended on its erection Mr. Peter Möller contributed \$30,000. The remainder was subscribed by his brother, Mr. William Möller, and Mr. John C. Roebling.

"Since 1870 we have received eighty-eight children. Of these twenty-eight have been discharged, and but one has died during the whole time. The institution is for full orphans."

The spirit of this Asylum may be understood from the following remarks of Mr. Holls: "We want to give these children a home. They are orphans, and have no other. We receive them here and keep the boys till they are of age, or old enough to learn trades; the girls till they are eighteen years old, and have become fully acquainted with housekeeping. A number of our boys are now out learning trades. If they get out of employment, or get sick at any time, they can return here to their home. This is their home at all times, till they can get a home of their own. *They are received here at my table. They eat the same food. There is no special preparation made for the so-called 'officers' table.' We don't know such a name here. We are a family. We have no domestics at all.*"

The institution is managed by the Director, whose wife acts as matron. The work of the house is all done by the children. The clothing is made on the premises. The mending and washing are also done here. Nothing is sent out.

In the kitchen, on the day of visitation, we found the wife of the

Director engaged in domestic duties, with six young girls around her doing other branches of the family work. The children seemed to be quite happy and natural in their manner.

The secular, moral and religious education of the children are carefully attended to, a school being held on the premises. In the evening the family get together and spend it in reading Bible stories, the Lutheran catechism, etc. The birthday of every child in the house is kept, and all the regular holidays, national and religious.

The children have a garden of their own, divided up into beds. Seeds are given them to plant, and they attend to them during summer, and preserve the seeds in the fall. They are required to keep their gardens clean. Sometimes two go into partnership, and keep a patch together.

About ten acres are laid out in walks and flower beds, and planted with shade trees and evergreens. In the extensive garden, grapes, raspberries, blackberries, apples, pears and corn are produced. A rustic summer-house, the work of the boys, adds an attractive feature to the place. The rising nature of the ground affords a fine view in every direction. The location of the Asylum edifice is picturesque, and the lawn surrounding it has been improved with taste, and in such a way as to preserve its natural beauties.

The building is constructed so as to secure a perfect separation of the sexes. The dormitories are furnished with iron bedsteads. The mattresses are of corn husks. The whole house is well kept, and every want of the children seems to be anticipated.

"It costs," said Mr. Holls, "\$6,000 a year only to support the institution, which is about \$100 per capita. We never have received a cent from the city or State, nor have we ever asked for any aid from public sources."

Mr. Holls, in speaking of what he deemed to be the proper treatment of juvenile delinquents, said: "I consider that the system of the Houses of Refuge in this country is wrong. If you treat a boy who is a delinquent as a criminal, he will be a criminal in the course of time. We received in the *Rauhe-Haus*, in Hamburg, with which I was connected, the class of children which you have here in the Houses of Refuge, and even a worse class. I have had children under my care who had been repeatedly committed; boys of about twelve years of age. I have had a girl of eleven years who had set fire to six houses; a boy who tried to burn three or four villages. Well, we received those characters, not to lock them up anywhere in a cell, but to say to them we are your friends. We know all about you. We know your whole life, but we won't speak to you about this except you want to talk to us yourself about it. We will forget every thing. Here, now, you have a chance to begin an entirely new life. If you want to run away, there

is no lock on the doors, you can run away, but if you wish to begin a new life here we will assist you. You have but to come under our rules and regulations and the way to reform is open to you, and then we treat them just as we treat our children, and have them sit down with us at the same table. I have seen the worst children melt with tears under such treatment, and begin a new life."

The opinion of Mr. Holls upon the question of Juvenile Reform is carefully noted, being deemed of value, coming as it does from one who had been a pupil of Dr. Immanuel Wichern, of Hamburg, a man whose labors in the reformation of children have been as remarkable for their successfulness as for the novelty of the system they inaugurated, and whose *Rauhe-Haus* at Horn and Brotherhood of St. John, have wrought such changes in the criminal classes of Germany as may well engross the attention of all interested in the subject.

Fliedner, the founder of the German Order of Deaconesses, visited this country in 1849, and four Deaconesses accompanied him to establish an Infirmary at Pittsburg, Pa., for the care of the German emigrants. Many of these dying left their families unprovided for, and the first Lutheran orphan asylum in this country was established in 1851 for these children, Mr. Holls assuming charge.

NEWBURGH HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

Newburgh.

This institution was incorporated April 7, 1862. It is stated that it had its origin in an association auxiliary to the American Female Guardian Society of New York, and went into operation in the autumn of 1861, gathering in destitute children and collecting money to care for them. Subsequently a disposition on the part of the ladies engaged to concentrate their entire energies upon the neglected children of Newburgh, and to work independently, manifested itself, and meeting with general approval the society, under the name of the Union Female Guardian Society, was organized and set vigorously to work. An industrial school was opened for such children as were prevented by poverty from attending the public schools of the city. During the first winter of the industrial school, which opened with thirty-three pupils, it is stated that "the managers alternately performed the duties of Matron in preparing the morning toilet of the children and serving their dinner, the most of whom came to the school-room literally clothed in rags, and had no regular food, excepting the one meal per day furnished at the rooms."

The press of children into the school-room rendered the task of the

Receiving Committee extremely difficult. The ladies, referring to this period, say: "At the end of the first month one-third of the original number was rejected; on the ground of our being wholly dependent upon the charities of a generous public, it was our duty to confine our labors to the very poorest objects, and not to experiment too largely in the infancy of our undertaking. It was painful, indeed, to read the countenances of these suffering little ones as we went through the ranks to select those who must be discharged; and to hear the cries and entreaties of those who were told they must leave, would melt an adamant heart. One little girl said, 'Then we'll have to live in the road!' Of those that remained, the glistening eyes and trembling voices, as they exclaimed, 'I thought you were going to send *me*!' showed their appreciation of the friendly care bestowed, and they have since repaid, a thousand fold, the patient toil of their teacher, and those who otherwise had the oversight of them last winter can scarcely realize that they are the same children.

"During the year six thousand three hundred and eighty-eight meals were given in the school, and twelve orphan and half-orphan children were thrown upon the society for support. Nine of these were motherless, and three were the children of volunteers. It became evident that if provision was to be made for even the orphans of the soldiers of our own vicinity, more enlarged accommodations must be provided. In 1865 the Home family numbered sixty-eight. Forty-two of these were the children of soldiers; twenty-four had fathers who had given their lives for their country, one of them dying in Libby Prison. Others were worse than orphaned, being in the possession of unnatural guardians, from whom vice had eradicated every parental motive, principle and sentiment. In March, 1864, a more suitable building was purchased, at a cost of \$7,750. Before the following November, \$5,310 of this was subscribed by twenty of the citizens of Newburgh."

In 1865, in consequence of the increase in the number of the permanent Home family, it was deemed expedient to discontinue the day school.

The visitation was made October 28th, when the Home was under the charge of Mrs. Isabella Thistle, Matron. A teacher, seamstress, laundress, chambermaid and cook were also employed.

The location on Montgomery street is quite elevated. The building is of brick, two stories in height, having a porch in front, facing the river, supported by four large doric columns.

The number of children on the day of visitation was forty-three. Eleven of these were quite young girls. The children are educated and taught to be industrious, and as soon as a good opportunity oc-

curs they are placed in families, the families of farmers being most generally preferred.

The Matron, in speaking of the children, said: "Our children have always turned out well. I do not think it is a good thing to keep children here very long, but while here my idea is to make them industrious from the first. They are brought up in idle habits. Both boys and girls are idly inclined. I teach them to do their own work as much as possible. If necessary, I have them do it several times over to make them do it perfectly. It is better for them. I teach both boys and girls to sew. We hear from the children who have left the Home, through others, and occasionally the children are brought to see us.

The dormitories are furnished with iron bedsteads, single, two feet six inches wide. Straw beds are used. Bath rooms and night closets are conveniently arranged.

The children are variously dressed, and appeared to be well cared for. Their moral and religious training is made a matter of the highest moment, which was shown by the answers given to questions put them by the Matron on the day of visitation.

The number of children received into this institution since its organization is three hundred and eighty-three; the number in the institution October 1, 1875, who were orphans, six; the number who were half-orphans, twenty-three; who had both parents living, fourteen. Forty-one were of native and two of foreign parentage. Sixteen of the children were partially supported by parents or friends, and twenty-six wholly by the institution. The number of children received during the past year was twenty-three; the number discharged, twenty-five. Of the latter, fourteen were returned to parents or guardians, and nine were placed out by adoption.

The total expenditures of the Home during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$5,275.66; of which \$1,098.21 were for improvements. The total indebtedness was \$1,588.21. It has an invested fund of about \$6,000.

This institution has grown steadily in public favor; beginning in a small but well-directed effort, it has demonstrated its utility by the valuable results it has accomplished. It is gratifying to state that its present condition appears prosperous, and that its affairs are administered with great prudence. It is managed by a Board of Ladies, representing the various Protestant churches in the city.

ST. PATRICK'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Newburgh.

This Asylum was founded and incorporated in 1868. It is under the charge of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity of Mt. St. Vincent, Sister Paulina being the Sister Servant. The Asylum is pleasantly located on an elevated site within the city of Newburgh. At the date of October 1, 1875, it contained seven orphan children, who were supported by voluntary contributions.

At the time of our visitation, October 28, the funeral of one of the inmates was about to take place, and inquiries in regard to the workings of the institution were in consequence deferred.

No report is at hand showing the financial condition of the Asylum.

AMERICAN FEMALE GUARDIAN SOCIETY.*New York.*

The early history of this society may be regarded as a protest of Christian mothers against the moral blight which then seemed to be effacing from poor and neglected children the Divine image. It is replete with interest, and for this reason is given at some length.

"In 1834, a band of women whose hearts were moved by revelations of sin, sorrow and moral ruin existing among the young in the city, organized an association, afterward incorporated, whose aim was to prevent crime, diminish the victims of the spoiler, and save the perishing. The place first occupied by this association, in 1835, was under the old Tract House, in Nassau street. It removed thence, in 1839, to rooms in the chapel of the old brick church, corner of Nassau and Beekman streets, which for several years were used for a publishing office, and the various purposes of the society. For several years the homes of sundry managers became the temporary shelter for the homeless till more permanent provision could be otherwise made. The number of these protégées annually increased, till at length a 'Home for the Friendless' became a manifest necessity.

"Many anxious efforts were made to secure this Home, and many discouragements caused these faithful mothers to despair. During 1847, the work of collecting funds was prosecuted, and in March, 1848, five lots on Thirtieth street were purchased, and on the 9th of December following the Home was completed.

"The society had, up to the year 1849, passed under the name of the 'American Female Moral Reform and Guardian Society,' but by an act passed April 6, 1849, its name was changed to the 'American

Female Guardian Society,' its present title. Among the names of its incorporators were many distinguished for their benevolence.

"Presently the labors of the association began to be more and more turned to the children. The conviction was strengthened by constant observation that the class which furnishes much of the material for the hecatombs of the outcast and the lawless that fill our prisons with victims and wring human hearts with sorrow, is found among the children of the street, trained in miscalled homes, and doomed early to wear the brand of the pauper; and, furthermore, that there is a point in each young life where, if withdrawn from moral pitfalls into the sunlight of Christian nurture, the child may thus be saved for this life and the next.

"It was felt that further legislation was needed to enable the society to extend its sphere of usefulness in directions where it was urgently needed, and at its Anniversary meeting in 1849, the following resolution was passed:

"Resolved, That the condition of thousands of children in our large towns and cities, without friends or homes, who are growing up ignorant and vicious, and thus becoming fit subjects for the prison or the gallows, calls loudly upon us as philanthropists, as Christians, and as Christian mothers, to devise some plan and unite our earnest efforts in its accomplishment for restraining, educating and preparing for usefulness this whole class of poor, forlorn ones in obedience to the blessed precept, 'As ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them.'

"A petition was prepared and submitted to the legislature, praying for legislation to provide for the care and instruction of idle and truant children, which resulted in the passage of a law for that purpose, April 12, 1853.

"In 1857, June 3, a building, called Home Chapel, was opened for the society, at which date it was stated 7,000 beneficiaries had found shelter in the Home, besides the great number of mendicant girls who had been fed, clothed and instructed in a large industrial school opened by the society."

The society has thus continued to grow till, on the date of visitation, October 8, 1875, it had in successful operation, besides the Home, ten industrial schools. To use the words of its corresponding secretary, "The society has continued to care for the children from infancy to adult years, and now, in looking over a quarter of a century, can contemplate the change in the condition of hundreds with great satisfaction. Once friendless and homeless, they have now many friends, fill positions of respectability and usefulness, are returning the benefactions received in similar care for others; in short, have become a blessing and not a curse to society."

House of Reception.

The house on Twenty-ninth street, besides the office of the society, school-room and chapel on the lower floors, contains also a shelter for young girls and a nursery for the infants given over to the society. The shelter, which is on the third floor of the house, is to afford, at a very cheap rate (\$2 per week), a comfortable Christian home to girls who are, during the day, at work in shops, stores and printing offices, and to maintain them while they are out of employment. These are unable to defray their expenses in respectable boarding-houses, and would be exposed to vicious influences in the places to which their limited means would give them access.

An air of comfort pervaded this department of the house. The sitting-room was well furnished with a bright carpet, tables, chairs, comfortable lounges, a settee and an organ. Its walls were hung with pictures of an elevating character. The room also contained a library of suitable reading. The bed-rooms were very neat and clean, and the dining-room and kitchen, connected with this department, were furnished with all necessary appurtenances.

The nursery is on the fourth floor, and is supplied with all needed comforts for infants. It is, however, regarded as but a temporary shelter for the little ones till they are adopted into families, and this is done as soon as possible. It has rarely more than fifteen or twenty inmates at a time.

The school in this house had an attendance of 148 on the day of visitation, October 8; but the number on the list was about 210. The children came from poor families in the neighborhood. They get bread at noon, and the girls are taught to sew in the afternoon. The room was furnished with modern appliances for school work, and contained a library of about 100 volumes, also an organ. On the walls were scriptural texts.

House on Thirtieth Street.

This is a spacious building, over thirty years old, containing in the basement the dining-room, kitchen, play-room, etc. On the first floor the parlor, committee-room, children's nursery, etc.; on the second floor the sewing-room, girls' play-room, dormitory and private rooms; and on the third floor the boys' dormitory, and rooms for the employes. The nursery is a pleasant apartment. It contained twelve iron cribs and four small iron bedsteads. The number of children present was fifteen. The ages of the inmates of this department, we were told, range generally from four to ten years.

The children wash in running water, and take a full bath every week.

The house is under the charge of an efficient matron, and was found to be very cleanly and orderly kept. This lady informed us that the children come in a very neglected condition. "We have," she says, "some so bad that we must destroy every thing they have on. We usually give them a good bath, and then dress them in our clothing."

Very little can be done in the way of industries, owing to the ages of the children, and the aim of the society to get them into the natural life of the child, that is to say, the family, as soon as possible, but those who are old enough are taught sewing.

As a means of setting the work of the society before the public, and as an instrument for getting homes for children, the society publishes a semi-monthly periodical, entitled the "Advocate and Family Guardian." This has been edited by the corresponding secretary, Mrs. J. S. Bennett, for the past twenty years, who has likewise been actively engaged in the work of the society for the past forty years. From a conversation with this lady, regarding the scope of its labors, we derived the following: "The society has aided in clothing hundreds and thousands of children gathered from the streets, who were below the level of the public schools. We take such into our schools, lead them along and as soon as they can read, graduate them into our public schools.

"We aim to help the poor parents, by keeping the children, and giving a foretaste of a better life. The little hymns the children learn at our schools they sing at home. They also draw books from the school library, and take them home to read. And we distribute a children's paper among them and tracts of an interesting, though non-sectarian character, all of which find their way to the parents.

"In distributing our aid, we endeavor to do it wisely, to assist none but worthy applicants.

"We employ visitors, who go to the homes of the poor and ascertain the character of those applying for relief. We report the names of unworthy cases to the Bureau of Charity.

"We have a committee of ladies divided among our twelve industrial schools. They visit the families of the children attending them, and take a special interest in the schools. These schools have many interesting features in the personal histories of the children attending them. Only Saturday I was asked to go and see a young girl, whose father and mother are now in the Tombs, awaiting their trial for murder. She belonged to a low, miserable family, given to drinking, and living in a tenement house. The little girl had attended one of our schools, and looked to us for protection. We took her and placed her in a good family, where she is safe and allowed to go to school, and we are going to ask the judge to commit her to us, in order that we may be able to protect her.

"We have constant applications from worthy families for children of different ages. But we are very particular to get good homes for the children before we let them go, and we have our visitor make a personal visitation of the family, unless we are fully satisfied otherwise that the home is a desirable one. We then let the children go three months on trial, after which, if satisfactory, we indenture them. Infants and little girls we get adopted. They come in one day and go out the next. This house is made a kind of protectory for children that are in trouble till we can find better homes for them.

"We have a visitor whose duty it is to visit them at their homes after they are placed out. Parties also volunteer to do this work for us. Perhaps a lady on Long Island will say to us, 'give me the names of the children in this locality and I will visit them.' This relieves our visitor, and so we keep ourselves informed about all our children. We keep a register which gives the history of every child that passes through our hands, so far as we can get at it. We find the best homes for children among the well-to-do farmers. We do not believe in children being brought up in idleness, but I think they ought to be dealt with reasonably and taught the value of their opportunities, and the way opened, so that they may become something when they reach manhood or womanhood."

Mrs. Bennett, on being asked what success had attended the work, said: "While there are drawbacks, and discouragements, and trials in the work, still the pleasure of seeing the larger proportion of the children doing well pays for all the labor and trials connected with it. There are some of both sexes who do not do well, but a majority have a record that is creditable entirely to their families, their foster-parents, and to the great work of Christian benevolence that has provided for them.

"Children that were here twenty years ago, and who are now men and women, come back to report to us. Their friends come to us and inquire after them. The mother treasures in her heart the same love for her child, and it is a consolation to her, after years of separation, to be able to come here and know that it is doing well, and perhaps see its portrait. One mother, a paralyzed woman, sent to us for the record of her child the day he became of age. We forwarded it to her, and we learned that the poor woman set out to find her child, and did find him at last.

"Wednesday a young man came to inquire about his three brothers. He had not seen them for twenty-three years. I took the name and turned to their histories. One had learned a trade, another was a clerk, and the third held an official position. The young man went away, promising to return and give me an account of his visits."

On the walls of the secretary's room were hung in frames the photographs of a large number of children. These, we were informed, were

the portraits of some of the children who had been helped into good homes by the society. They were taken by their new guardians and sent to the society. These simple pictures of faces, rendered pleasant by the love which had elevated and made them purer, were of more interest than the rarest works of art, and were a fitting embellishment to the office of these earnest workers for poor children.

The records made of the children, on the books in the office, are very complete, beginning with its earliest work and tracing the history of each individual to maturity. These have been systematically kept and show the conscientious manner in which they have been uniformly written up through a long series of years. It is deemed of sufficient interest to insert a few specimens taken at random from the books as we opened them :

"M. S. F., born in New York. October, 1847; M. M. F., born in New York. February, 1850; T. W. F., born in New York.

"February, 1852. The above family, a brother and two sisters, were brought to the Home by the bereaved father, who was unable to provide for them.

"May, 1856. Legally surrendered; father deceased a few months later. The brother was soon adopted by a worthy family. Details of his history up to manhood are exceedingly good.

"M. S. F. taken by a family in New York State.

"July, 1856. * * * Legal papers executed.

"January, 1857. Heard from favorably. Was attending school and making commendable improvement.

"1858. Visited by secretary; regarded very kindly. Has faults that cause some solicitude.

"1860. * * * The foster-mother writes: M. S. plays well; has several music scholars; has also acquired a good trade, and is efficient and self-reliant.

"* * * 1869. Foster-mother writes again: 'On Thursday eve last, our daughter was united in marriage to a worthy young man in our village.' * * *

"October, 1875. The venerable foster-mother writes: 'Our beloved M. and her little family reside near us. She proves a truly worthy wife and mother; is a consistent member of the church, and is filling a sphere of usefulness in all her relations. The dark antecedents of her history are now far in the background.' "

The younger sister has a record similar to the foregoing: Was followed by faithful supervision up to womanhood; is now pleasantly settled in life and well rewards the care bestowed upon her training and education. The brother and sisters, since reaching their majority, have corresponded and enjoyed satisfactory interviews.

"S. P. J., 1855. Born in New York. Left homeless and friendless; was committed with a brother and sister to the American Female Guardian Society, in accordance with its charter.

"January 15th. Placed in the family of —, on trial for three months; very worthy parties, and highly recommended.

"May 1st. Favorably reported, and adoption papers requested and forwarded.

"October. Good account received per letter.

"April. Good account received per letter.

"October. Good account received per letter.

* * * * *

"August, 1866. Letter received asking permission to return the child, to which the Executive Committee gave consent.

"October. Letter received saying that improvement was apparent, and the foster-parents proposed to keep her longer, as they hoped she would yet become a good girl.

"March. A good report received.

"September, 1868. A letter indicating marked improvement and encouragement received from foster-mother; also one from S. P. J. very creditable to herself and satisfactory to her friends.

"* * * June. Again a favorable report from parties visiting the child, who sent a generous donation to the 'Home,' in token of her 'grateful remembrance.'

"February, 1869. Letter received from S. showing commendable improvement; also a letter from the foster-mother full of interest and very satisfactory.

* * * * *

"October, 1872. The adopted daughter visited the Home, appearing exceedingly well, now a young lady of culture and education, of whom any parents might be proud.

"April, 1875. A letter received from S. P. J.'s foster-parents saying that she is now settled in life happily, and now wishes herself to adopt a child from the Home.

"E., M., G. and C. Whole family of children, aged respectively eleven, six, four and two years.

"July 12, '47. Brought to the Home (July 1) from the bedside of a sick and dying mother, who was a very worthy woman, and who died of starvation, their wants not being made known. The father, who was sick at the same time, recovered, but became very intemperate. When sober he was a fond father.

"The boys G. and C., aged four and two years, were well adopted (1848), visited from time to time, and through the years of childhood and youth had always a good record, and the same was true of both the sisters. The desire of the father to see them was very strong, and he was at length promised 'on condition that he would sign the

pledge and keep it sacredly for a full year, being in the meantime industrious and provident, he should then have an interview with his children in their respective homes.' To this he assented, met the conditions named, and at the close of the year was permitted to visit each of his children, and wept for joy to find them so well situated. From that time until his death he continued strictly temperate. He united with a Christian church, and at the time of his decease had accumulated quite a little sum to be divided among his children. Each member of this family attained their majority with an excellent record of well-doing, and have since filled positions of usefulness in life."

In addition to its other work, the society sustains the following industrial schools:

Industrial School No. 1, 29 East Twenty-ninth street.

Industrial School (Rose Memorial) No. 2, 418 West Forty-first street.

Industrial School No. 3, Twenty-fifth street, corner Eighth avenue.

Industrial School No. 4, 15 Tompkins street, near Broome.

Industrial School No. 5, 244 West Thirty-third street.

Industrial School No. 6, corner of Broadway and Fifty-fifth street.

Industrial School No. 7, Seventy-sixth street, between Second and Third avenues.

Industrial School No. 8, 161 Tenth avenue.

Industrial School No. 9, 335 East Sixtieth street.

Industrial School No. 10, 438 East Houston street.

Industrial School No. 11, Fifty-second street and Tenth avenue.

The notes of visitations made to a few of these schools are given with a view to affording a clearer understanding of their character and work.

The Rose Memorial School ; or, Industrial School No 2.

This school was organized in the year 1857, by a small committee of ladies, with seventeen mendicant children and a devoted teacher. It met, for the first few months, at the Mission Sunday-school rooms of Rev. Dr. Hatfield's church. The number of children gathered from crowded alleys, garrets and cellars soon increased, and the work to be done assumed dimensions beyond the capacity of the small committee to compass, and the school was therefore transferred to the Managers of the Home for the Friendless, and has for more than eleven years past proved an agency for good, exceeding their most sanguine expectations. For more than ten years the Home Managers have hired and occupied rooms for this school in the rear of the German church on West Fortieth street. These rooms became at length much dilapidated, and, owing to unhealthy sanitary surroundings, entirely unfit for permanent occupation.

Every practicable effort made to secure a better location for the

school proved abortive, and the prospect of success seemed hopeless. About this time, Messrs. Chauncey and Henry Rose, hearing of the dilemma, gave to the Home a special donation of \$10,000 toward the erection of the present building, and subsequently added the sum of \$5,000.

Thus encouraged, two lots of ground, 25 by 100 feet each, were purchased, and the present edifice was erected, with special reference to all the wants of the school, present and prospective. The expense incurred for the lots was \$5,000, the cost of the building something over \$22,000.

Besides the large audience room, which will seat some 400, and serve also for a chapel on the Sabbath, there are two large class-rooms, an infant school-room with gallery, two large play and clothes' rooms janitor's rooms, closets and bath-rooms; also convenient yard room, surrounded with high fence, which for the time, it is asserted, is quite necessary for the protection of its windows, and the safety of teachers and pupils.

The visitation was made on the 7th of October, 1875, and the immediate charge was then in the hands of Mrs. Elizabeth Smith. The average daily attendance was stated to be about 400, though there were on the register about 700 names.

From Mrs. Smith we obtained the following particulars relative to the workings of the school: "The children do not attend regularly. They come and go. They are a very changeable population. Our attendance is smaller now than it has been for the three previous years. We require our larger scholars to leave for the public schools. Besides giving books and instruction free, we give bread every day to about fifty, and clothing as they need it.

"We teach the ordinary branches, reading and spelling, with and without defining. We teach addition, subtraction, multiplication and division tables. The children do not remain with us over fourteen years of age. They are then generally obliged to go to the factories. They come in from three to fourteen years. The average age of our children is about nine. We have seven teachers."

Industrial School No. 3

Is situated on the corner of Twenty-fifth street and Eighth avenue. The entrance is on Twenty-fifth street. It occupies an upper floor of the house. The visitation was made on October 7th.

The school was found to be in charge of Miss F. A. Rowland, with a lady assistant.

The following particulars regarding the school were obtained: There were then in the school one hundred and ten children, and the attendance was increasing every day. It promised to be much larger than

last year. "The school hours," says the Principal, "are from nine till five o'clock. We take children at any age from two to sixteen years. Sometimes we have older girls. We have a little one only eighteen months old. The larger number range from eight to ten. We receive any body that comes. But they are mostly very poor children, whose parents cannot support them at home. They buy their own clothing with tickets that they earn at school, and they get a lunch of bread at noon. We teach the common branches, the four rules of arithmetic, and other studies that are in keeping. We open school by the children repeating the Lord's Prayer and reciting a psalm in concert."

The school was regarded as being in a flourishing condition. The Principal says: "I can see a great improvement in the scholars, both mentally and physically. They sometimes come in dirty, when we send them to wash their faces. We require them to observe personal cleanliness." The school possesses an organ, also a library belonging to the Sunday-school connected with the work.

Industrial School No. 5

Was visited October 7th. The Principal was, we were informed, at home ill. Fifty-seven children were in attendance, their ages ranging from four years up to ten or twelve. From the lady in charge we received the following information: "School is opened at nine o'clock by the teacher reading a chapter from the Bible, and the children reciting the Lord's Prayer.

"The children use Sander's First Reader and Third Reader. A few read Parley's History. We teach arithmetic and the common branches. We do not write on copy books but on slates. We teach sewing from Thanksgiving on to about March. The sewing class is formed by the ladies. They settle their own time for coming. They come once a week and sew from one till three. The children make dresses and patchwork. The ladies provide the materials. We have a Thanksgiving dinner. A committee of five or six ladies raise money among the friends of the school, and the money left over is used for buying material to make dresses. We are commencing to get a library. One of the ladies sent sixteen volumes yesterday."

The school-room was furnished with patent desks, which we ascertained were presented to the school by the Twenty-ninth Street Presbyterian Church. A concert was given by them for the purpose of raising the money.

The school occupies the first floor of the house; the basement is used by the janitor; the upper part is rented to a family. The building is owned by the Society.

It will be seen, from what has been already accomplished by the large and earnest force of workers of this organization, that it is one

of the great moral powers opposing itself to stupendous evils, which, but for such barriers, would soon undermine society. Its work has been conducted with so much system, the placing out of children has been looked to with so much care, and the records of them through long periods of years have been so faithfully kept, as to serve in these respects as a good example, for others engaged in like efforts, to make the world better.

ASSOCIATION FOR BEFRIENDING CHILDREN AND YOUNG GIRLS.

New York.

This institution was organized and incorporated in 1870. It grew out of the work of a mission school, which began in 1869, and was held semi-weekly, for the purpose of imparting to children growing up in vice and depravity, some knowledge of religion. "The school opened at ten, and the children were kept at work sewing, and taught hymns, prayers and catechism till twelve o'clock, when they were provided with a good dinner. Girls of a larger class, 'long ago lost,' beginning to make their appearance at the school, and implore for help, the necessity of enlarging the work in some way became apparent. And thus there grew the idea of a home where these forlorn and abject children of the streets would be welcome, and where also the girl, scarce a woman in years, but old in the knowledge of sin and consequent suffering, might hide her shame, and where both should come voluntarily."

The House of the Association for Befriending Children was opened at No. 316 West Fourteenth street, on the Feast of the Annunciation, 1870. It had accommodations for forty-five persons. Every bed was filled the first night, and many had to go away unprovided for. In May, 1871, the Association removed to 247 East Thirteenth street, and the name was changed to its present title. Here it remained till 1874, when, in the month of May, it again removed to 136 Second avenue, its present commodious premises. This building has been raised two stories, and otherwise altered to meet the needs of the work, and contains the usual modern appliances for the health and comfort of about 100 inmates.

The premises were carefully inspected October 6, on which occasion we were furnished by the President, Mrs. Mary C. D. Starr, with the following information regarding the aims and workings of the institution:

"The object is reformation. We do not propose to receive people, except such as require reformation; but there are none too depraved or too unfortunate for us to admit, whatever their vice may have been,

whether intemperance or an abandoned life. Children are not received under twelve years, nor adults over twenty-five. Our rules are not so fixed in regard to the older women; but they are in regard to children under twelve, because for children of that age commitment would be necessary. We receive them on their own application. The only thing that we require to know is, that they are unfortunate and that they need what the institution proposes to give to them. We do every thing that is necessary for them. We clothe them, feed them, give them secular instruction and also religious and industrial training. They pay nothing. They give nothing. The only thing that is required of them is, that they shall be willing to remain six months, because to do the work well that we propose, requires time.

"On admission, applicants are placed in some one of the various departments of the house, and we find out, after a while, what they have the best capacity for, and they are placed at that and trained thoroughly in that department. If for laundry work, they are taught to perform that in the very best manner. Others are placed in the machine-room and learn to do all kinds of sewing. Then again others are taught household work. So we train them for laundresses, seamstresses, cooks, waitresses, nurses, chambermaids, whatever they have most fitness for. Those especially, that have sewing every day, are also taught household work. Then, of course, their religious education goes on at the same time.

"We receive all grades. We never ask whether they are Protestant or Catholic. Then, after they have remained as long as we consider desirable, at least six months, they are supplied with employment. We place them in families. We never send them out alone, so that there is no interval between being here and in a place of security. We require every lady employer to bring references as to character, and to come here and take the girl with her. When the girls come here, some of them know just as little as it is possible for a person to know to live. When they go from here they get high wages, because they have been trained.

"If they conform to all our rules, this house is their home. When they leave a place, they can always come back. If they are out of health, they may come here and get well. If they have been worked hard, they can come here and rest. We want to make the circle of work complete. We want to obviate any necessity for them to go back to old associations.

"Many girls have not one being in the world to whom it is safe for them to speak. Of course we have all grades here. We have girls who are educated, and even some women who are accomplished. We have had them all the way down to the lowest stratum of society. Those who have been of a better class have, in

many instances, been separated from their friends. Of others, the fathers and mothers are their worst enemies. We say to them 'you are always welcome to come here.' I am constantly in correspondence with them when they are away. Almost every day I have a letter from some one of them.

"Our great aim is to follow up this work after they leave us. The most important part is watching over them afterward. We have a society formed here in the house, of which those who aspire to a better life become members. The rules of this society are, that its members shall come here to a meeting once a month, on the second Sunday in the month, when we have religious services and a reunion. I can tell by their appearance how they are getting on. I can tell by their dress. There is an opportunity then to say a word to them, and advise them. None but those in the house meet at these reunions.

"Every one finds their level here. The educated naturally seek the society of the educated. They are, if possible, restored to their families. The chief thing for us to know is where they are and what they are doing. The institution is supported mainly by private charity. We earn a great deal by our own labor. As soon as a girl is morally and industrially fitted to go, we send her out to work.

"The rule of the house is very strict in regard to conversation on the past life. Of course religious influence is the first, last and middle of every thing, and the obligation not to speak of the past is very strong, and generally adhered to. Every girl is told when she comes in that girls have come here for different reasons. We tell them 'nobody will ever know why you came in unless you tell them. No one will ever know your history except myself. We want you, when you go away from here, to lead a different life.' This is the very strongest argument that can be used.

"Under the influences here, you will see them acquiring a spirit of self-respect. It grows beautifully, and sometimes those that have led the most unfortunate lives are the most sensitive. My intention is to raise *the woman*. No amount of outward reformation is going to avail any thing if you do not raise the woman's idea of her own dignity *as a woman*.

"Our work could be extended with more means. It is very necessary to have a boarding-house where these girls, going out to work by the day, could come back at night and be safe. And yet, with this work, we are always crowded. We never have room. Some one comes in and there is no place to put her. Then the question is, 'Who can go out?' The ages of those in the house vary from twelve to twenty-seven. The average is from sixteen to twenty. That is the most hopeful period. Over twenty, there is very little that can be done in the way of reform.

"Nearly all the reformatories for this class are obliged to use punishment. The most extreme punishment that is used here is bread and water for breakfast or tea. We certainly have the most lawless people under our care. We have people for whom prisons nor police have terrors. Of course it is very much more laborious where we use but moral suasion and moral force, but it is the only effectual way.

"There are four ladies, beside myself, engaged in this work. They give up all their time to it. They are ladies of culture, and are in charge of different departments of the house. There is no compensation. Their circumstances are such that they have no home-ties. I have always superintended personally. I am so situated that I can spend a certain number of hours here every day. Some of our girls, who have been with us many years, are placed in positions of responsibility as monitors. But it is only a lady of character that can have any influence over the girls we wish to reform. Each girl costs us \$50 for her clothing, maintenance, etc.

"We have no paid servants. Our labor all comes from the inmates. There is only one paid person in the house, and that is the head laundress. The laundry has from ten to twelve hands employed. It is not as large as it should be. If it were, we could add greatly to our income. We make \$150 a month by it at present."

In the basement of the house are the kitchen and the girls' lavatory. The first floor contains chapel, parlor, offices for the reception of inmates, and private rooms; the second floor machine room, with twenty-five sewing machines, community room, and class room. The third and fourth floors are entirely devoted to dormitories. The fifth floor is the recreation room, fifty-five feet long, in which there are a piano and other means of entertainment. On the basement floor is a bath-room supplied with hot and cold water. Mrs. Starr further says :

"Every girl in the house has her own bed, her own towel, soap, brush, tooth brush and comb, and it is capital punishment if they do not use them. Each has her bath every week. It is not left to her own choice. A person in the bath-room keeps a list of every one in the house, and sends for them in regular order, from the oldest to the youngest. Every article of clothing is changed weekly, including bed-clothes, and every floor in the house is washed. Some of the rooms are scrubbed every day, and none of them less often than three times a week. All sleep on single iron bedsteads. Every bedstead is washed once a week. I do not think iron bedsteads are cleanly. Leaving undone any of the precautions we take for one month would fill the house with ophthalmia and other troubles.

"When a girl comes in she at once receives a bath, using carbolic soap. If her hair is in very bad condition, and it is indispensable, it is cut, but we always give them a chance to save their hair. If necessary,

as sometimes happens, they receive a bath every day after they come in for several weeks. Every article of clothing on them is changed, and whatever they bring with them is washed before it is used.

"The beds are of straw. They are supplied with fresh straw every three months, and the ticks are washed. The straw is taken out of the house and new put in. The result is that we never have any illness except those that come in with diseased and broken-down constitutions. We use a great deal of farinaceous food."

In the chapel is an organ which is played by Mrs. Starr during service. A very good choir is formed of the girls. The dormitories are neat, clean apartments, with tinted walls and counterpanes of snowy whiteness. On one side is a shelf with white bowls, and above each a compartment for towels, brush and comb. When not in use a wooden screen hung on weights shuts down over it, so that it appears part of the wall. Strips of carpet are laid through the center of the floors. Each of the dormitories is named after its patron saint, among whom were conspicuous St. Ann, St. Vincent de Paul, St. Joseph, St. Elizabeth and St. Catharine.

The clothes room had the appearance of great neatness and order; curtains were hung before the shelves. Some of the inmates who have been reformed, it was stated, consecrate themselves to do the work of the house. They wear a black habit, and a black cross attached to a scarlet braid. They have adopted the name of the "Sodality of the Precious Blood of Our Lord." They bind themselves to a life of reparation and missionary work for one year. At the expiration of that time they are allowed to renew their vows. Their labor, supervised as it is by cultured ladies, may perhaps account for the beautiful order and freshness of every part of the establishment.

The work being done in this institution is of a peculiar nature. It appears to be thoroughly done, and those engaged in it are not only well qualified for its performance by their social advantages, but from the earnest missionary spirit which actuates them.

The whole house bore evidence of being kept in the very highest condition of cleanliness and order. In addition to the industrial training, the moral influence and religious teaching of the house must prove of great advantage to every inmate. The impression was made upon the mind that the work being carried on by these earnest Christian ladies has proved remarkably successful, and is deserving of liberal support.

At the date of visitation a little over one-half of the inmates were orphans, and a large number were half-orphans. All except one were of foreign parentage.

The whole number of persons received during the past year was 225.

The number that were placed out or returned to parents or guardians was 236.

The current expenses for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$6,321.17.

The total indebtedness of the institution is \$36,926.92, of which \$25,000 is upon real estate. The association has no invested fund.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF COLORED ORPHANS IN THE
CITY OF NEW YORK.

New York.

The history of this charity, which was incorporated in 1838, is given as follows:

"In the autumn of 1836, a few persons, feeling that humanity and justice demanded that something should be done to elevate and improve the condition of colored orphans in New York city and State, enlisted themselves in their behalf, and the sum of \$2,000 was obtained mostly by small subscriptions. A society was formed, and, near the close of the year 1836, twenty-two lady managers were elected, and five gentlemen were chosen as an advisory committee. The managers tried in vain, for three months, to hire a suitable house on account of existing prejudice against color. As the only alternative, a purchase was decided upon, and a cottage house, situated on Twelfth street near Sixth avenue, was obtained for \$9,000. The Trustees of Lindley Murray's Charitable Fund subscribed \$1,000, which was added to the amount already given. After the purchase of the house, not a dollar remained to furnish it, or provide for the orphans. Recourse was speedily had to the garrets of the managers for rejected articles of furniture, and, by additional contributions, the cottage was soon supplied with requisites. The promise of \$500 from the Manumission Society, toward education, authorized the formation of a school for the neighboring children. Forty scholars were soon found in attendance, whom the managers themselves instructed by turns. Owing to limited resources, the utmost caution was used in the admission of orphans, and interested friends furnished supplies from their table. One little girl of four years was at first admitted, others soon followed, and, at the close of the financial year, seven months from the opening of the house, the managers found themselves with a family of twenty-three children, the current expenses for that time being only \$234.03. About this time the managers received a donation of \$6,000 from the estate of William Turpin. During the year 1839, donations were received to the amount of \$10,000 for the purpose of purchasing lots

and erecting a new building, better adapted to the accommodation of children. Some small children were boarded with good families in the country. This year, for the first time, \$425.93 was received from the Commissioners of the Public School Fund for the purposes of education. It has been continued to the present time. The institution, during its early history, was mainly supported by donations. It received much timely aid from the Manumission Society and the Lindley Murray Fund. In June, 1842, the city corporation made the Association an appropriation of twenty lots of ground lying on Fifth avenue, between Forty-third and Forty-fourth streets, and on this site the managers erected a plain substantial brick building capable of accommodating one hundred and fifty children, and, in May, 1843, the children were moved to the new Asylum.

"In 1848 the Association received a legacy of \$5,000 from the estate of John Horseburgh, who had given a like sum at sundry times during his life, also an appropriation, for the first time, from the Legislature of \$335.53, and an allowance from the city of a certain sum per week for each child supported from the city.

"In July, 1863, the asylum was assailed by a mob, pillaged and burnt to the ground. The children were taken quietly and safely out, and in a few days were temporarily provided for at Blackwell's island.

"The following October the family was moved to a residence in Carmansville, rented for the purpose. The next year Chauncey Rose donated \$20,000 to the Association, and a claim upon the city for the destruction of the asylum buildings by the mob was allowed, amounting to \$73,000. It was not deemed advisable to rebuild upon the old site on Fifth avenue and Forty-third street, and the land was disposed of for \$170,000, and these amounts were reserved for the purchase of land and the erection of new buildings. Donations were received from John Haven, \$5,000, and Chauncey Rose, \$1,000, both of which were added to the building fund. During the year of 1866, forty-five lots were purchased, situated on Tenth avenue and One Hundred and Forty-third street, at a cost of \$45,000, upon which the present building was erected. It was ready for occupation in May, 1868."

The institution, at date of visitation, October 22, was under charge of a Superintendent, Mr. O. K. Hutchinson. There were about 270 children in the asylum, two-thirds of whom were boys. The edifice is a two-story brick structure, with a mansard roof and basement, having improved grounds about it. A fine view of the Hudson is obtained from the premises. The halls of the building are wide and the stairways quite roomy. The balustrades are made of black walnut. The doors are of natural wood, varnished. The ceilings are high and the windows large. Separate yards, furnished with swings, are provided for both boys and girls.

Mr. Hutchinson informed us that half-orphans, full orphans and destitute children were admitted.

The following are rules and regulations in force:

Children may be admitted between the ages of two and ten.

Children should not be indentured under twelve years of age.

Homes in the country must be invariably provided, unless there offers a good opportunity of apprenticing a boy to a trade.

Persons taking children must produce good testimonials of character, circumstances, etc.; a note from a minister is required, certifying that they are members of some religious denomination.

A boy is entitled, at the expiration of his term of indenture to \$100, which sum his master should pay by yearly installments into the hands of the treasurer, to be by her placed in trust for the child. But should he leave his place before the expiration of his time, or so conduct himself that he becomes an unworthy object, this sum, or such as shall have accrued, shall revert to the institution. This rule applies equally to boys and girls.

It is requested that the person to whom a child is indentured shall communicate with the Board as to his welfare, before the expiration of two months.

Six months' schooling is required for the first two years of a child's apprenticeship.

Three months' trial will be allowed. If, at the expiration of that time, the child is insubordinate, he may be returned. After that the Board does not hold itself in any way responsible.

A child placed in the institution by a surviving parent or guardian, with the intention of withdrawing when at the age of twelve, shall be charged 75 cents per week.

No parent shall be allowed to withdraw a child whose board has not been paid, or who cannot offer security for its future payment. This should be clearly understood when the child is entered.

No child shall be transferred without the knowledge and approbation of the Indenturing Committee.

The institution is supported by donations, subscriptions and income from investments. The Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction pay ten cents a day for destitute colored children belonging to the city. About one hundred and eighty children are at present paid for at that rate.

Mr. Hutchinson says: "We get a portion of the School money, and also a portion of the Excise money. The children are visited after they are placed out, but this is not systematically done. Parties taking children pay us a certain sum; for a little girl it is \$50. It is paid annually, and when we get that money we hear from the children. The money is put in a bank, in the name of the treasurer, for the child.

Each child has a bank-book, held by the treasurer. The child has this money when it is of age. The children are too young to be taught any regular industries in the asylum. We teach the older boys to work upon the grounds. The girls are taught to sew, in school. One afternoon in the week, and during the summer vacation, we have a class in sewing. They also assist in the housework. We get along with just as little servants' help as we can. The asylum is built with reference to classification. We have very little trouble with that matter. The boys and girls meet together in the same school-room and dining-room.

"The working force consists of a superintendent, matron, six teachers and fifteen or sixteen servants. About twelve of these are females. The force includes an engineer, baker, and a man who takes care of the boys. We have forty-five city lots. The building was opened seventeen years last May. It cost \$130,000, all told; the grounds alone cost \$40,000. The building is heated by steam, mainly. The ventilation is effected by means of wall flues.

"A book of records is kept, in which are entered the names of all the children indentured, the day of indenture, the residence of parties taking them, an account of the receipts from each, and a report of conduct."

Fire-proof doors divide the building, and a fire-proof stairway affords egress in case of need. The school-room is a large and well-lighted apartment, which is used also for a chapel. It has a bay window on one side. Outside of the bay window is a broad porch, from which a view of the Hudson is obtained. Vocal music is taught. A piano is used in accompaniment.

The dormitories are furnished with iron bedsteads, single, straw beds and feather pillows. The beds are two feet eight inches wide, and seemed very comfortable. The children dress almost, but not altogether uniformly.

In the clothing-room we found a large supply of woolen garments, prepared for winter. The underwear of both girls and boys is, we were informed, made by charitable societies in the city. The dining-room is a spacious apartment, and is furnished with tables and stools, the latter being fastened in their positions.

The bread used in the asylum is baked on the premises, in a brick oven; hop yeast being used. The kitchen was very clean. In the lavatory is a large circular vat, about twelve feet in diameter, with a lead pipe running around the inside rim. The children wash in running water. Each one has his own towel, which is changed twice a week.

The nursery department is a pleasant room, well-lighted. It is furnished with little tables and little benches. The children here, at the time of our visit, were from two to five years of age. About twenty

of them, in charge of a young colored woman, were in this department. The children belonging here being small, sleep two in a bed. A fire was burning on the hearth, and flowers brightened the room. The nursery leads out upon a little balcony, where the children are enabled to play in safety.

The Superintendent says, "Nine children died in the institution during the year. Colored children are constitutionally weak, and are afflicted with lung and scrofulous complaints. We cannot make them healthy children."

The institution appears to be well managed, and its affairs are in a prosperous condition. It is doing an important work. The number of children that have received its benefactions since its organization is 2,150. During the past year seventy-seven children were admitted and ninety discharged. Of the latter, thirty-one were indentured, fifty-seven returned to parents or guardians, and two transferred to other institutions. On the 1st October, 1875, there were, remaining in the institution, eighty orphans and one hundred and fifty-two half-orphans. The total expenditures for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$34,836. The value of its invested fund is \$168,912.65.

ASYLUM OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL.

New York.

This Asylum was founded through the benevolence of a Mrs. Crooks, and has been sustained by the ladies of the Roman Catholic Church on Twenty-third street, in the interests of destitute children of French parentage, but its benefactions are not confined wholly to this class. Its affairs are directed by a Board of Lady Managers, and its finances are controlled by a Board of Gentleman Trustees. Its immediate charge and workings are intrusted to the Sisters of the Religious Order of the Marianites of the Holy Cross. Fourteen Sisters are engaged in the work, Sister Mary of the Archangels being at the head of the establishment. No domestics are employed, the work being done by the Sisters with the assistance of the older girls.

The Asylum was visited October 20, in company with Commissioner Hogue, at which time there were one hundred and twenty-five children in the institution, forty-seven of whom were boys. Children are received as young as four years and are kept, if boys, till twelve, and if girls, till they are eighteen years of age, provided their guardians consent. The best disposition possible is made of the children, when they are ready to leave. The Sister says: "Girls are always wanted, but boys are hard to dispose of."

The children, while in the asylum, are instructed in both the French and English languages, and the girls are taught to sew, wash, iron and cook. Sewing is taken in for the purpose of helping to support the institution, and also to enable the industrial education of the children to be carried on with greater efficiency.

Of the children in the institution on the day of visitation, forty-three were paid for by ladies of the church of St. Vincent de Paul, who constitute themselves guardians of a certain number. Others were more or less paid for by their parents; the balance were entirely supported by the institution. The parents of some of the children pay toward their support, we were informed, sometimes \$6, sometimes \$5 a month, but more frequently nothing.

On visiting the sewing department we found thirty-five large girls employed. They were variously dressed. Very creditable specimens of their work, which is all done for private families, were on exhibition. The boys and girls are kept strictly apart, even to attending separate schools and eating in separate dining rooms.

The chapel is capable of accommodating about two hundred and fifty. It is neatly fitted up with seats of natural wood, having black walnut moldings. The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads and straw mattresses. Washing arrangements are in connection with the dormitories, and the inmates wash in running water.

The dining rooms are furnished with tables and benches. The laundry is well arranged. On the day of visitation six little girls were here ironing along with the Sisters. The building is constructed with high ceilings. It has wall flue ventilation, transom head-lights over the doors, and is heated by steam and lighted with gas. The window sashes are hung according to the modern plan, with cords, weights and pulleys. The children were apparently quite healthy.

The number of children inmates on October 1st, 1875, was one hundred and twenty-three, twenty-one of whom were orphans, and one hundred and two half-orphans. All were of foreign parentage. One hundred and eleven were entirely or partially supported by friends, and twelve wholly by the institution.

This institution is mainly supported, as has been stated, by the members of the Roman Catholic Church on Twenty-third street, the custom being for particular members to sustain certain children. This feature, it is thought, insures a personal interest in the protégés on the part of their benefactors. The management of the Asylum is marked with great economy. The total expenditures for the month of September for the support of the entire household, as shown by the account books, were:

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| For the sustenance of fifteen Sisters..... | \$116 16 |
| For the sustenance of one hundred and twenty-three children, | 423 00 |
| Total..... | <u>\$539 16</u> |

This, it will be seen, has been less than \$4.00 a month, per capita, including the support of the Sisters.

The demeanor of the Sisters was such as it would seem must naturally win the confidence and respect of the children, and the atmosphere of the house was cheerful and home-like.

CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY.

New York.

The history, development and beneficent operations of this Society have been already well illustrated in the work prepared by its devoted Secretary, Mr. Charles L. Brace, entitled "The Dangerous Classes." This work is so complete an elucidation of the objects and purposes of the Society, that little, if any thing, can be added. The work of the Society from the first, has been conducted with the munificent spirit characteristic of its leading supporters, and its operations have been upon so grand a scale as to stamp its impress upon the age to which it belongs.

The results of visitations made to several of the many institutions of the Society, showing them in their every day aspect, and a few statistics gathered from its last report, may be interesting. The statistics are given at some length, for the reason that the work of the year is regarded as somewhat larger than ever before, and seems still more satisfactory.

The Association was formed in 1853, and incorporated January 1st, 1855, under the general law. An office was opened on Amity street, and a beginning made, to check the growth of the "dangerous classes" which infested New York. "The different parts of the city where the lovely form of childhood was being changed into aspects as revolting to the sight as they were harrowing to the feelings, became more fully known, and the extent of the work inaugurated soon appeared appallingly evident." The laborers, however, pushed forward the undertaking, expanded it to meet every new exigency, till at length we find it working in six Lodging Houses for boys and girls, in one of which alone over one hundred thousand homeless boys have been sheltered,

fed and instructed; in twenty-one day industrial schools, and in thirteen night schools, where during each year over ten thousand destitute children "too poor and too busy on the streets to attend the public schools, have been instructed, and partly fed and clothed. The great work of the Society, however, has been the placing of homeless children in good country homes."

In the last twenty-three years nearly forty thousand have been so placed out. Of these, Mr. Brace says: "We follow the fortunes of vast numbers of them, and, so far as we can trace, not more than five per cent turn out badly; *i. e.*, commit criminal offense, or become chargeable on the public. The whole West, where these children have been sent, are satisfied with the work, and the demand for them is far beyond what we can supply. Many of these thus sent out have now accumulated property, and occupy positions of trust and responsibility."

If the figures are even approximately correct, as given by the Prison Association of New York, in its thirtieth annual report, from the researches conducted by Dr. Harris and Mr. Dugdale, as the penalty of neglecting one homeless child, "Margaret," in Ulster county, the amount saved the country by placing forty thousand destitute children under wholesome family influences in one branch of the work alone, in twenty-three years, can hardly be conceived. In regard to this economic feature of the work, the Secretary of the Society, in his last annual report, says:

"If each vagrant, homeless, and unprotected child saved by the Children's Aid Society during the past year, and placed in a good country home, be reckoned as a pecuniary saving to the community of at least \$1,500, then will the saving to this city from our emigration operations alone, during the past year, amount to at least several millions of dollars. But when it is considered that from each of the little vagrant girls thus saved there might have come forth a long line of paupers and criminals, the immense gain to the future of our community from these labors of charity may be feebly estimated; and still higher, if we recall that each of these little abandoned street children is an heir of immortality, and one of "the little ones of Christ," for whom He lived and died, we may still better judge of the momentous importance of these humble labors of charity."

The emigration feature of the work is thus stated:

"During the time of the greatest distress last winter, and as special funds were afforded, many extremely destitute families were sent to places of work in the West and South. Not one, so far as we know, has failed to be self-supporting. A vast correspondence is still kept up with these children by Mr. Macy and the clerks in the office, and

the history of each little waif, with his own name, is carefully recorded on our books. Names are never changed without informing us, and that only in cases where a child is adopted by its employer, in order to inherit his property and become a member of his family."

In our visit to the office of the Society on Fourth street, October 26, we noticed about eighteen or twenty little fellows from twelve years old upwards, who were being prepared to go west; others, we were informed, were expected in to make up a company of about thirty. Upon inquiry of the Assistant Secretary, Mr. J. Macy, the following particulars were given concerning them: One group was a German family of five children, accompanied by the father; another was a family of three children, with both father and mother; a third was a family of two children, with father and mother; a fourth was a father and mother with two boys; a fifth was a family consisting of father and mother and three children; a sixth was a mother with four children. There was also a widow who came from Dacotah in a condition of abject poverty, going to her mother in New England; a young man, aged nineteen, going to friends in Springfield, Ill.; and a man and wife, with four children, going to Minneapolis. These, it was stated, were found in a condition of the most abject poverty. Among the number was an honest-faced English lad, eleven years old, who was being sent, upon application, to a gentleman with whom it was thought he would have unusual advantages. Three boys were going to Indiana, to their father, who is now able to take care of them. Three others, whose father was intemperate, and whose mother had died, were going to Missouri. They had previously obtained their living by begging from house to house. Friends had interested themselves in them, and they were surrendered to the Society. The faces of the older parties bore traces of privation and sorrow. All were comfortably attired, a number of the garments worn being new. The company appeared clean, and a rejuvenation seemed to have taken place through the brightening influence of the new hopes arising out of the opening future. A particular inquiry into the history of these families left the impression that, if left to follow the natural course of circumstances in the city, they would probably pauperize. It was stated that it was unusual for so many adults to be included in these parties sent out to the care of the western agent. The Society proposed taking these families under its keeping till they were, so to speak, set once more on their feet and started anew on the road to self-support. The work of the Society in this department, during the past year, is thus stated by its Secretary:

There have been provided with homes and employment during the year:

STATE BOARD OF CHARITIES.

429

| | |
|----------------------|-------|
| Boys..... | 1,853 |
| Girls..... | 1,552 |
| Men..... | 263 |
| Women..... | 358 |
| Total..... | 4,026 |
| Last year..... | 3,385 |
| Excess for 1875..... | 41 |

The following Schedule shows the number sent to each State during each month, together with the nationality and parentage.

| Where sent. | Month. | Nationality. | Parentage. |
|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| New York..... 241 | 1874. | American born, 1,509 | Parents living.. 841 |
| New Jersey..... 118 | November..... 259 | Irish..... 921 | Father living.. 425 |
| Ohio..... 268 | December..... 223 | German..... 965 | Mother living.. 750 |
| Indiana..... 262 | | English..... 229 | Orphans..... 1,126 |
| Illinois..... 397 | 1875. | Scotch..... 77 | Unknown..... 233 |
| Iowa..... 331 | January..... 225 | French..... 41 | |
| Wisconsin..... 305 | February..... 255 | Swedes..... 124 | Total..... 3,405 |
| Michigan..... 290 | March..... 426 | Italian..... 1 | Men..... 263 |
| Minnesota..... 114 | April..... 404 | Poles..... 114 | Women..... 358 |
| Nebraska..... 106 | May..... 377 | Bohemian..... 37 | |
| Missouri..... 251 | June..... 373 | Swiss..... 2 | Total..... 4,026 |
| Kentucky..... 11 | July..... 329 | Danes..... 5 | |
| Virginia..... 20 | August..... 630 | Spanish..... 1 | |
| Delaware..... 46 | September..... 326 | | |
| Maryland..... 13 | October..... 209 | | |
| Kansas..... 60 | | Total..... 4,026 | |
| Connecticut..... 34 | Total... .. 4,026 | | |
| Massachusetts... 21 | | | |
| Rhode Island.... 15 | | | |
| South Carolina.. 56 | | | |
| Vermont..... 1 | | | |
| Nevada..... 18 | | | |
| Canada..... 14 | | | |
| California..... 17 | | | |
| Colorado..... 29 | | | |
| North Carolina.. 31 | | | |
| Tennessee..... 42 | | | |
| Louisiana..... 4 | | | |
| Pennsylvania.... 35 | | | |
| Texas..... 10 | | | |
| New Hampshire, 2 | | | |
| England..... 5 | | | |
| To sea..... 3 | | | |
| Ret'd to friends, 156 | | | |
| City..... 651 | | | |
| Other institu'ns, 79 | | | |
| Total..... 4,026 | | | |

Total sent since 1853. 40,389

The following are the names of the Lodging Houses conducted under the auspices of this Society:

Newsboys' Lodging House, 9 Duane street.

Girls' Lodging House, 27 St. Mark's Place.

Rivington Street Lodging House, 327 Rivington street.

Eleventh Ward Lodging House, 709 East Eleventh street.

Sixteenth Ward Lodging House, 211 West Eighteenth street.

Phelps' Lodging House, 314 East Thirty-fifth street.

A few of these were visited, and the notes taken will, it is thought, be a fair exhibit of their workings as a whole.

The Newsboys' Lodging House (corner of Duane and New Chamber Streets).

This institution is a six-story brick building, with an attic in addition. It is a new and stately edifice, with buff-colored stone moldings, and was first occupied in March, 1874. The first floor is fitted up for stores, and designed to be rented.

A visitation and careful inspection was made October 4th. It is under the immediate charge of Mr. and Mrs. Charles O'Connor, who have been in the work for the past eighteen years. The following information was given by Mr. O'Connor in the course of our conversation:

"We commenced in the old 'Sun' building, on the corner of Fulton and Nassau streets, in the year 1854. We had about forty boys there. It was conducted on the same general principles as it is now. Since then a large number of boys have gone out from us and done well. There is hardly a day that I do not meet boys that have been successful in life, who were once with us. They come up and talk with me, and express gratitude for what I have done for them.

"Our first boys are to be found in all professions in life. I have had boys here who are now ministers, whom I placed out. One of these had been in the House of Refuge before coming here. I met him after the war. He said, 'You do not know me, Mr. O'Connor. I am a different boy now from what I was.' He knew that I took him out West and placed him on a farm. He was sent to school and got a religious turn, and became a good boy.

"The last time I was out West I met several of my boys. One would come and tap me on the shoulder and ask me if I knew him. 'I am the editor of that paper over there.' Another, 'I keep the largest bakery in the city.'

"Numbers of our boys that have succeeded West send to me for others to come and live with them. Only two months ago one that we had sent West when a boy, got married to an only daughter of a very respectable family, a highly educated young lady, and has thus become connected with a good family. Another lad has got one of the largest wholesale groceries in the town. There is a great field out West for boys. A great deal depends upon the family into which the boy enters. Our agents are very particular, and will not allow a boy to enter an improper family. He visits all the families where boys are placed. Our office keeps a printed form that they send to the employer once in three months, with the request that he send the information about the boy's conduct, etc., and then a record is made of that.

"A great many of the boys that come to us are orphans. A large number of the boys have dissipated parents. In almost all cases their destitution proceeds from the dissipation of the parents or guardians. Many of their parents are at Blackwell's Island, every now and then. Parents make a resolution to be good, and break it before the end of the week. The mothers are usually strong, healthy women, and go off with other men.

"We know what every boy is doing, and no boy who is able to support himself elsewhere is kept here. We have a bank and encourage the boys to save their earnings. This place is only to help boys who are trying to help themselves. I have a personal interview with every boy that comes in. I find out who he is, what is his home, where he came from, and if he has any parents living. We can generally tell from his appearance whether he has run away from home or not. If we suspect that a boy has parents living, and he is non-committal, we generally get another boy to sleep with him and he will generally get out of him his whole history before morning. We then send a message to his family, and hold the boy till we hear from them. In this way we send a great many boys home who have been led to New York by reading the yellow-covered books. They come from Chicago, Philadelphia and all over, thinking that they will make their fortune here.

"Each boy on coming has to register his name, age, parentage, where born, if he can read and write, if he is an orphan, half-orphan, and if he has any money. If he has only six cents he is asked to pay for his lodging. If he has nothing, he gets his two meals and lodging free. His underclothing is washed free of charge once a week. A great many boys never had any change till then. We help them to a shirt where we know they cannot earn one for themselves. We make it a principle to make the boys feel that they must help themselves all they can. No matter how shiftless a boy is, he can generally manage to make enough to support himself. He is not so negligent that he will go without food.

"We tell the boy, on his arrival, nothing else except the rules of the house, until we find that he has no home. Then we suggest that he go West and get employment with a respectable employer. I advise the boys myself. I advise them to be honest, industrious and, before all things, to keep from chewing tobacco. The first thing I did, when I took charge of this institution, was to take away all spittoons from the house. They all thought I was crazy; but I have had no need for them since. If a boy comes in here and persists in chewing tobacco, I turn him out. I tell the boys that, if they want to get employment, they must keep themselves clean.

"Boys generally come here in a very bad condition. Their heads

are often like a rotten apple. We have sometimes to burn all their clothes and put ointment on their heads. But in a few days the change is so great that we would hardly know them. The boys are sometimes in the habit of sleeping out for months before they come here.

"They are encouraged to deposit each month's savings in a savings bank. We have a number with deposits in the savings bank. Some of them must buy clothing with their savings; others will have to divide it with their poor parents."

Routine of the day.—"The boys rise a little after five, wash and dress, and fix matters up till a quarter past six, when they have breakfast. Each boy has a ticket, which he presents to the engineer at the door of the breakfast-room. He then passes on and takes his place at the table, eats his breakfast and goes. The boys come and go. They don't all eat at the same time and finish together.

"After breakfast the boys scatter through the city, and don't put in an appearance till six o'clock in the evening. In winter they come at half-past four. We don't allow them to hang around the premises.

"When the boys return in the evening, each one takes off his hat and goes and registers himself and pays six cents for a meal and six cents for his lodging. Some of them have a good deal of spirit, and would not take a free meal, and if they have no money they get credit. Frequently boys pay in advance. After registering, they each get a ticket and a key which is numbered, the number corresponding with the number on some clothes' closet in the house, where the boy puts all his clothes except pants and shirt, goes and washes and gets ready for supper, which is served at seven o'clock. At half-past seven he goes to school. Two teachers are employed and about one hundred and twenty boys attend. The school is over by a quarter to nine o'clock. The boys then prepare for bed. The school is closed by all the boys repeating the Lord's Prayer. Every Friday evening the boys sing hymns and rehearse the Sunday-school lesson.

"Sunday evenings we usually have gentlemen from the city come and talk with the boys. Some of them interest the boys a good deal; others don't succeed so well. The criticism of the boys, after the speakers are gone, is usually very sharp and amusing. Horace Greeley used to come and urge the boys to go West, and tell them how to farm and save money, and above all things to steer clear of city life and politics; and William Cullen Bryant would also come and talk to them."

Dining room.—The boys sit on benches. No table-cloths are used. The tables are made up of horses with boards placed on them. The legs of the horses are hinged and so constructed as to be closed up when set aside, thus occupying but small space. The tables are two feet eight inches wide, and the two ends of each are fitted together by an iron

socket in one and a pivot in the other. Crockery plates, bowls, knives and forks are used. The boys, we are told, 'seldom break any thing. Whatever breakage occurs is done by the domestics.' The dining room can seat about five hundred.

Audience room.—This is a large room, occupying the whole of one floor. It is furnished with patent seats, folding back, and has large windows on three sides. At one end is a raised dais, with an iron rail in front, also a piano. The walls on three sides of the room are fitted up with "cupboards." They are used for the boys' clothing. There are two hundred and fifty in all. The largest sizes are intended for boys who have Sunday clothing. The locks on each are different; each key opening but one lock.

At the other end of the room, opposite the raised dais, is a recording desk, with an iron railing around it, where each boy is registered. It also contains a key-board, with keys numbered to correspond with the clothes cupboards. At the registering desk is a "savings bank." This consists of a table perforated with one hundred and ten holes, each hole numbered consecutively from one to one hundred and ten. The holes are just large enough to drop in a silver half dollar. It contains a drawer running both ways, with three differently constructed locks. The drawer has an iron bottom, and different little compartments under each number. A cover, formed of two pieces hinged on each end, lapping over the table and meeting in the center where they are locked, is now used for greater security. The boys used to "fish out" the fractional currency with crooked wires.

"The boys," the Superintendent says, "are fined for infringement of rules. A boy is fined ten cents if he takes his key out in the street. He must leave it at the registering desk every time he goes out. They are expected to be in by nine o'clock. If any are out later than nine, there is a fine of one cent between nine and ten, five cents between ten and eleven, seven cents between eleven and twelve. We are more particular about the fine than the lodging money. The boy cannot get his lodging without paying the fine. It makes the boys resolve not to go out the next day. When they stay out after hours they are generally at places of amusement, where they ought not to be, and for that reason we are particular about the fines."

In this room were several mottoes, among which were the following:

"Boys having homes not received here."

"Boys desiring homes in the country should apply to the Superintendent."

"Boys' underclothing washed every Friday, free of charge."

"The use of tobacco is strictly forbidden."

The audience room is also used as a school-room. Reading, writing, arithmetic and geography are taught. "It is surprising," says the

Superintendent, "to see how smart some of them are. Many of them are very apt scholars."

Bath-rooms.— Bath and wash-rooms have troughs running around three sides of the room, affording accommodations for fifty boys to wash at a time. Tin basins are used. On the fourth side are six bath-rooms, two tubs in each. One end of the room is partitioned off for the water-closets, with accommodations for eleven boys. The boys use soap in washing. Here are also a considerable number of foot-baths.

Drying Room.— "It was found," says the Superintendent, "that many boys would come in drenched with rain, and their clothes used to be put away wet. In the morning, of course, they were still wet, and had to be put on in that state. This room was put up to meet that difficulty. Now, if a boy comes in with his clothes wet, they can be dried here in five minutes. Drying clothes by steam has also a tendency to destroy vermin and other impurities that may exist in the clothes."

Dormitories.— Dormitory number one contains one hundred and thirty-four beds. Iron bedsteads are used, arranged in double tiers. Each bedstead is two feet one inch wide, and five feet ten inches long. The upper bed stands three feet ten inches from the floor. The lower one stands one foot five inches. Each bed has a straw mattress, husk pillows, a pair of sheets, a "comfortable," wadded with cotton, and an outside spread or counterpane; and, in cold weather, an additional comfortable was said to be used. The beds were clean, and well aired. "During the cold weather the room is kept at a moderate temperature." The Superintendent would prefer not to have the boys sleep one above another. "A man stops with the boys till eleven o'clock at night. Very few boys come in after that hour. They never raise a row. They sleep soundly and quietly during the night."

The dormitories are so divided into sections that any particular boy can be found at once, if inquired for. Dormitory number two is furnished the same as number one. Dormitory number three is a smaller room, furnished with beds, five feet two inches by two feet seven inches. These beds the Superintendent prefers to the others. The boys occupying them are charged ten cents. "We charge more for these," says the Superintendent, "to prevent jealousy."

The gymnasium is furnished with horizontal bars, boxing gloves, swinging ropes and various other kinds of apparatus for exercising.

The result of the visit was very gratifying.

The year's work of this institution is thus stated by the Superintendent in the recent annual report:

"Our savings bank has been used by 1,311 boys (an increase of 39), who have saved \$3,206.15.

"During the year we have had 9,286 different boys with us, being an increase of 373. They have paid \$8,105.64. Our receipts from the boys this year are \$1,938.11 more than last year, being an increase of 31½ per cent.

"During the year 527 boys have been placed in good homes. There have been restored 973 lost and truant boys to relatives and friends. Parents often wish us to learn about lost children.

"We have averaged 238 lodgers nightly, being an increase of 44 over last year, an increase of 20 per cent. We have, during the year, furnished 91,253 meals, an increase of 18,586, or nearly 26 per cent; 86,880 lodgings, an increase of 16,199, or about 23 per cent.

"Since our establishment we have furnished 10,000 boys with permanent homes and employment. It will be seen that we have thus placed in situations ten per cent of all boys coming under our care."

The Girls' Lodging House, 27 St. Mark's Place.

This establishment, which has been in operation for thirteen years, was visited October 6, and found to be under the immediate charge of Mrs. E. S. Harley, matron. The institution embraces a lodging house for girls, a training department for domestic servants, a sewing machine school and a dressmaking department. The following information, relative to its inmates and workings, was furnished by the matron:

"We take girls between the ages of nine and twenty-five years. We do not take them any younger than we can get situations for; but if a child is given up to us, we will take it at any age. We get homes for the children who come to us. We do not keep them here. We sent eighty-eight to situations last month and eighty-seven this month. They went mostly to the neighboring country. About nine or ten of these went West. I was just answering a letter from one of the girls who went out West with the last company as you came. I have never had but one sent back. I have been in the work for twenty years. We do not take married women or widows. The rule of the house is 'under eighteen,' but I cannot keep strictly to that rule, so many girls come in who say they are eighteen when I know they are over that. They need shelter just as much as the others. If they behave well we keep them. If they want to go out at night and won't obey the rules, why we won't allow them to remain. In our dressmaking department we give the girls instruction free of charge for six months. We then find places for them. They have all done remarkably well. The children under my care I place out myself. We have constant applications here for girls. It is very seldom that we have them placed under our care by parents.

"The object of the institution is to take charge of such as wish the shelter, and to guide, guard and keep them from going astray. I believe that it has saved a great many girls. On coming here I ask them some questions. I usually ask them, 'Have you any father or mother? Where did you stay last night?' I try to get their history as near as I can. A great many of them are girls out of situations. They pay six cents a night for lodging, six cents for their meals, or \$1.50 for a week's board. Their supper is six cents, and dinner is six cents. If they have no money they come in, and we say, 'If you are willing to submit to the rules, and to work around the house till I can get a situation for you, you can stay.' The Society thinks it well to fix this nominal sum for the girls to pay. We have, I suppose, about eight or nine girls in the house who are working for their board. We teach sewing on the machine. We have twenty-four machines in the house. Outside girls who choose to come and learn to operate the sewing machine can do so. They pay nothing for that. They bring their own work. We give them the instruction free. We also teach housework. Some of our girls are in the kitchen learning to cook. Some are in the dormitories making beds and doing various kinds of work. We had thirty-two here last night. We had, for the three months previous, over one hundred. The last two months the number has been lower. About fifteen hundred were inmates of the house last year. A great many of them only stay a night. Since last November eight hundred and eighty-one girls have received instruction upon the sewing machine gratuitously.

Religious Instruction. — "We have services Sunday morning and evening through the winter. They are held from eleven to twelve in the morning, and from eight to nine in the evening. We have prayers every evening, with the reading of the scriptures. The girls go to bed early. They are all in bed at a quarter to nine o'clock. The girls stay a very little while, and we cannot look for any very great change, but I know some of them have improved wonderfully. They feel that there is somebody to take an interest in them."

An interesting feature of this house is the girls' sitting room. This is a pleasant apartment, illuminated with pictures of home life; it contains a piano for the evening entertainment of the inmates. It is also used during the religious services.

The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads. The were very clean. Straw is used in the ticks. Each bed has a blanket and comfortable and white spread, and in winter two comfortable white tidies were laid on the pillows, giving the beds a neat appearance. The straw in the ticks is changed in the spring and fall. The walls of the dormitories were nicely tinted.

One of the rooms of the house is for sewing classes. The Matron

says: "Several ladies come here and teach the girls sewing. It is a separate department, and has been very successful."

The working force consists of the Matron, house-keeper, dress-maker and machine sewing teacher, each attending to her own department.

The dining room tables are covered with white cloths. Crockery wares, knives and forks are used. The girls get simple but nutritious food.

The house is heated by furnaces, and lighted with gas.

Some of the cases rescued by this institution, during the year, are thus described:

"A few weeks since a girl of sixteen came in, with a sad face and sweet voice; her story was, that she had a drunken mother and step-father, and after living a life of drudgery for months, with some one who failed to pay her for her labor, she went home to her mother, who took a trunk strap and beat her unmercifully, because she brought her no money. This woman can earn from \$40 to \$50 a month as cook, in hotels, but she spends every cent of it for drink."

"Another, a sewing-girl of nineteen, said she had had no employment for weeks, had begged something to eat after her money gave out, and slept wherever she felt safe, or sat under stoops all night, sometimes, rather than go to station-houses where there were so many dirty people. Had never heard of this place till a lady directed her here."

"Yesterday, a dear little bright-faced orphan girl of sixteen, in whom the whole household was interested, went to a good home in the country, who came to us a short time since, having been turned on the streets to look out for herself. The frequency with which mere children are thus treated is almost incredible. Not long since, three came here in one week. One was a gentle, little blue-eyed girl, who had been forsaken by her mother when only six months old, but had been well taken care of for several years by a kind woman, who afterwards died. She then went to live with a family who beat and abused her, and at last turned her out, when she wandered about the streets till taken by some children into an industrial school, from which the teachers sent her here. Another of thirteen, came of her own accord. The person with whom she had been living, not requiring her services any longer, sent her heartlessly into the street. This was a very interesting girl, and the lady who has adopted her, writes that she is very proud of her little daughter."

"The third girl was older than the other two, being nearly fifteen, and her story, told in an artless manner, with many tears and convulsive sobs, impressed us as the saddest of its kind we had ever heard. She was a German orphan girl, of respectable parentage, had been living at service, and had committed some trifling fault, for which she was sent away. For three successive days and nights, till a late hour,

she had the *streets for a home*, wandering up and down, accosted often by bad men and women, from whom she would run, and when too frightened to stay out any longer, would take shelter in the station-house, from which she was sent here. This girl had been in one of our industrial schools for some time, and showed the value of good influence upon her. We found her perfectly innocent and inoffensive, and she was sent to a comfortable home in the west."

The statistics of the Girls' Lodging House, for year ending November 1, 1875, are :

| | |
|--|--------|
| Number of lodgers..... | 1,337 |
| Number of lodgings furnished..... | 11,703 |
| Number of lodgings paid for..... | 5,044 |
| Number of meals provided..... | 27,542 |
| Number of meals paid for..... | 10,097 |
| Number of girls sent to situations..... | 807 |
| Number of girls found employment..... | 42 |
| Number of girls sent to friends..... | 51 |
| Number of girls sent to other institutions..... | 46 |
| Number of girls sent West..... | 46 |
| Number of girls sent to hospital..... | 18 |
| Number of girls sent to Europe..... | 5 |
| Number of girls learning to operate sewing machines..... | 939 |
| Number of girls found employment on sewing machines.... | 589 |

| | |
|--|------------|
| Expenses, less construction account..... | \$5,127 47 |
| Less receipts from inmates..... | 2,206 89 |

Actual expenses for the year..... \$2,920 58

The Rivington Street Lodging House.

While all the Lodging Houses of the Children's Aid Society have a characteristic attraction for the visitor by reason of the work which they are doing for the well-being of children, and by reason of their being the depositories of many interesting biographies, this feature of the Rivington street house is concealed under the mantle of the gentler aspects of the charity found in its flower mission.

The Lodging House occupies numbers 325 and 327 Rivington street, near the East river. The first floor is taken up with both dining-room and school-room. Arrangements are adequate to seating fifty-eight at the dining tables. The apartment communicates by a side door with the Superintendent's house and the kitchen department, where hot meals are prepared for the children. The dormitories are on the third and fourth floors, and are furnished with iron bedsteads, arranged in

double tiers, and well supplied with comfortable and clean bedding. On the second floor are bath-rooms supplied with hot and cold water, and also a gymnasium. Of this feature the Superintendent, Mr. George Calder, says: "For this valuable auxiliary to the Lodging House we are indebted to Mrs. Wm. E. Dodge, Jr., who not only furnished a complete set of gymnastic apparatus, but with characteristic generosity defrayed the expenses of a gymnasium building. It was opened in August last, is a great success, is exceedingly popular, and has done more than any thing else to attract our boys from the evil associations of the street at night."

Connected with the Lodging House is a dispensary department containing a medicine case well supplied with medicine for sick children, in reference to which, and the work connected therewith, the Superintendent says: "During the past year we have relieved, in one way or another, from the Sick Children's Fund, nine hundred and thirty-six different families, containing two thousand three hundred and eighteen children. The aggregate number of visits made by our physicians to the homes of sick children or their parents, is thirteen hundred and fifty-seven, while nine hundred and fifty additional cases were treated at the doctors' offices, the latter mostly gratuitously, excepting in surgical and other cases occupying considerable time. We have paid the entire funeral expenses of eleven children, and assisted in that of fifteen others."

The most attractive part of the house is the second floor. Here is a large school-room, where at night a school is held, taught by three lady teachers, of whom Miss Anna Johnson is principal. In regard to the school the Superintendent states: "The street boy's education has been sadly neglected. Many of them have been obliged to 'paddle their own canoe,' as they say, from the time they were able to gather a few cents worth of junk, or pick up a pail of coal upon the street, and so they have had no opportunity to acquire an education, excepting at the night schools of our Lodging Houses. It is a rule with us that every boy must attend night school unless he is legitimately employed elsewhere, and to satisfy us on that point we require certificates from their employers. The principal school-room, in addition to the usual school-room furniture, contains several other features of interest. There is a large library of reading matter, the character of the books comprising which may be inferred from a remark made by one of the older boys, who said, with some show of satisfaction:

"They are books you can read; none of your dry stuff." A refreshing sight in this room is a good-sized aquarium, supplied with marine plants, among which large gold fish were lazily disporting. The glassy surface of the water was shattered into tiny dimples by the falling spray from a little fountain. From this room a glimpse of the

conservatory, into which it opens by a wide doorway, is obtained. The camelias, tropical and other plants which it contained, could not only be seen from the school-room, but the odorous blossoms permeated it with a delicate perfume. The young man in charge stated that the conservatory had been added to the lodging-house by Mr. Howard Potter. Connected with the conservatory is a propagating department, in which slips are propagated, and little plants potted and given to the children of the schools to take to their homes. This department includes a little garden, in which the slips are grown after being started in the hot-bed. These slips of fragrant geraniums, etc., are given as rewards among the children of the industrial schools, and are taken by them to their homes. Bouquets of flowers are also sent from the conservatory to brighten the homes of the poor, and to the bedsides of the sick. The Superintendent says: "Nowhere does a flower look more beautiful than in the hands of a poor sick child." When the squalid poverty that invests the homes of many of these children is considered, and the depressing influence of nearly every object that surrounds them, the advent of one of these little plants from the Flower Mission is not unlikely to be regarded as a type of something purer and better, the incentive to reach which may then for the first time find lodgment in the soul.

Religious services for the boys are held on Sundays, regarding which the Superintendent remarks: "The street boys, as a rule, do not attend a regular place of worship, and these Sunday evening meetings afford the only opportunity they have of acquiring an elementary knowledge of religious truth. The large attendance and deep interest always manifested by our boys in these simple services are very remarkable, and refute the common notion that they are either averse to religion or disposed to ridicule it. The meetings are held from November until May, and are conducted alternately by Mr. Howard Potter and Mr. Henry E. Hawley. These gentlemen have long been friends of this lodging-house, and have taken a deep interest in the welfare of the boys, and their faithful counsels have led many a poor waif to pursue a higher course of life."

Like the other Lodging Houses, this has also a savings bank. It is stated by the authority last named "that the boys of this Lodging House have always been liberal patrons of the 'savings bank.' It is amusing, as well as interesting, to see the pompous and self-important air with which some of these boys drop their pennies in the 'bank.' Some of them save only thirty or forty cents a month, and yet this, with the interest, is sufficient to buy them a pair of second-hand shoes in Baxter street. Others will save several dollars, with which they generally purchase clothing or 'stock.'"

"During the past year we have had two hundred and eighty-five depositors, whose aggregate savings amount to \$771.29."

The following, selected from the Superintendent's report, will further elucidate the work:

"When a poor boy enters the Rivington Street Lodging House he discovers — it may be for the first time in his life — that in this great busy city there is some one who takes an interest in *him*. In every appointment of the house he recognizes a provision for his especial benefit. He is confronted with a code of 'rules,' the observance of which completely upsets his old habits and introduces him to a higher social life. As he takes his seat in the reception room, his eye is arrested by such mottoes as the following: 'Shall there be a God to swear by and none to pray to?' 'Boys who are in trouble, or in want of homes and employment, will find the Superintendent willing to help them.' 'The wise boys put their pennies in the savings bank, and get five per cent a month interest.' And again: 'A boy's best friend is a good education; come regularly to evening school.' The first of these mottoes, in the form of an illuminated scroll, was placed over an archway at the suggestion and expense of our excellent friend, Mr. Howard Potter. It is in the front of the room, where every boy can see it, and its silent influence has done much to check the habit of swearing, so common among the street boys."

The following statistical information is derived from the same source:

| <i>Ages.</i> | |
|---|--------------|
| Aged 6 | 2 |
| Aged 7 | 15 |
| Aged 8 | 31 |
| Aged 9 | 40 |
| Aged 10 | 50 |
| Aged 11 | 92 |
| Aged 12 | 99 |
| Aged 13 | 153 |
| Aged 14 | 220 |
| Aged 15 | 242 |
| Aged 16 | 320 |
| Aged 17 | 160 |
| Aged 18 | 79 |
| Total number of boys provided for during the year | <u>1,503</u> |

Nativity.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Born in United States | 1,225 |
| Born in Ireland..... | 97 |
| Born in Germany | 86 |
| Born in England..... | 57 |
| Born in Scotland | 17 |
| Born in Canada..... | 14 |
| Born in Italy..... | 12 |
| Born in France | 7 |
| Born in Austria..... | 3 |
| Born in India | 2 |
| Born at sea..... | 2 |
| Unknown | 1 |
| Total | <u>1,503</u> |

Parentage.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|
| Number of orphans | 1,182 |
| Number of half-orphans | 219 |
| Number with parents living..... | 102 |
| Total | <u>1,503</u> |

Education.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Number able to read and write | 1,184 |
| Number able to read only | 193 |
| Number unable to read or write | 126 |
| Total | <u>1,503</u> |

Occupations.

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Newsboys | 209 |
| Bootblacks | 174 |
| Peddlers | 92 |
| Errand boys..... | 80 |
| Cigarmakers | 66 |
| Laborers | 49 |
| Printers | 41 |
| Canal boys | 37 |
| Wood bundlers | 30 |
| Baggage smashers..... | 29 |
| Cart drivers | 25 |
| Boxmakers | 25 |
| Bookbinders | 25 |
| Oyster openers..... | 24 |

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Book folders | 22 |
| Bowling alleys..... | 22 |
| Sailors..... | 21 |
| Waiters..... | 20 |
| Tinsmiths..... | 19 |
| Brass finishers | 18 |
| Tailors | 18 |
| Brushmakers | 18 |
| Clerks | 18 |
| Coal pickers..... | 16 |
| Bakers..... | 16 |
| Barbers | 15 |
| Actors | 15 |
| Bell boys..... | 15 |
| Telegraph messengers | 14 |
| Paper collars | 14 |
| Wire workers..... | 14 |
| Butchers..... | 13 |
| Oyster saloons | 13 |
| Hoisting-horses | 13 |
| Foundry boys..... | 13 |
| Bill distributors..... | 13 |
| Hatters | 12 |
| Heating rivets..... | 12 |
| Varnishers | 11 |
| Soapmakers | 11 |
| Bill posters..... | 11 |
| Masons | 11 |
| Umbrellas..... | 10 |
| Coopers | 10 |
| Machinists | 10 |
| Type breakers..... | 10 |
| Cooks | 10 |
| Other occupations..... | 80 |
| No occupation..... | 39 |
| Total | <u>1,503</u> |

It will, of course, be understood that the majority of these boys are *learning* the trades placed opposite their numbers.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Number of boys provided with permanent homes in the West | 104 |
| Number of boys provided with homes and employment in the city and suburbs | 78 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| Number of boys restored to friends | 63 |
| Amount saved during the year by 285 depositors in the Savings Bank of the Lodging House | \$771 39 |
| Average attendance at night school..... | 70 |
| Average number of nightly lodgers | 95 |

Lodgings and Meals.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Total number of lodgings furnished..... | 34,753 |
| Total number of lodgings paid | 31,485 |
| Total number of lodgings, free | 3,268 |
| Total number of meals furnished | 56,903 |
| Total number of meals paid..... | 52,370 |
| Total number of meals, free | 4,533 |

Expenses and Receipts.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Total expense | \$10,003 13 |
| Deduct improvements and repairs..... | 1,052 82 |
| Net expenses of Institution | \$8,950 30 |
| Deduct receipts for lodgings, meals, rents, etc..... | 4,125 12 |
| Net cost, including partial rent, but not interest on capital | \$4,825 18 |

This Lodging House has been in operation for eight years. It commenced with five lodgers. It now averages ninety-five nightly. During the past year it has provided for fifteen hundred and three boys.

We have gone at some length into details, regarding this establishment, because of its possessing some peculiar features, and because it is a good illustration of not only what is aimed at, but what is being actually accomplished by the benevolent workers in this field. The Lodging House is located in one of the most wretched quarters of the city, where the door-ways of its dwellings are haunted by the gaunt figures of want and disease. This house, kept with scrupulous cleanliness and order, with its sweet air and all its pleasant accessories of flowers and books, stands ever open to the neglected, wayward or unfortunate. Its elevated moral teachings and educational advantages must inspire many a forlorn little being, permitted to enjoy its privileges, with high aspirations and manly hopes.

In regard to the Lodging House branch of the work of the Children's Aid Society, the following table, from the Secretary's last report, will be found interesting:

Tabular Statement since organization.

| YEAR. | Number of boys. | Number of lodgings. | Number of meals. | Returned to friends. | Expenses. | Paid by boys. | Number of boys using bank. | Amount saved by them. |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1854 to 1855..... | 408 | 6,872 | ..... | ..... | \$1,199 76 | \$397 56 | ..... | ..... |
| 1855 to 1856..... | 374 | 7,599 | ..... | ..... | 1,431 82 | 391 26 | 16 | \$643 58 |
| 1856 to 1857..... | 387 | 5,157 | ..... | ..... | 1,762 56 | 262 56 | 116 | 270 70 |
| 1857 to 1858..... | 800 | 8,026 | ..... | ..... | 1,925 03 | 298 03 | ..... | ..... |
| 1858 to 1859..... | 3,000 | 14,000 | 11,923 | ..... | 2,199 34 | 807 15 | ..... | ..... |
| 1859 to 1860..... | 4,500 | 19,747 | 13,114 | ..... | 2,113 56 | 955 44 | 23 | 110 10 |
| 1860 to 1861..... | 4,000 | 27,390 | 16,873 | 100 | 3,420 57 | 1,036 98 | 230 | 1,259 77 |
| 1861 to 1862..... | 3,875 | 32,954 | 19,809 | 247 | 2,736 08 | 1,138 88 | 388 | 1,376 59 |
| 1862 to 1863..... | 3,000 | 29,409 | 20,000 | ..... | 3,402 82 | 1,102 33 | 347 | 1,315 10 |
| 1863 to 1864..... | 6,325 | 36,572 | 25,506 | 437 | 5,758 16 | 1,559 10 | 405 | 2,080 06 |
| 1864 to 1865..... | 6,793 | 42,446 | 30,137 | 576 | 7,159 95 | 1,944 22 | 499 | 2,505 92 |
| 1865 to 1866..... | 7,256 | 43,797 | 32,867 | 633 | 10,058 13 | 2,127 44 | 599 | 2,486 43 |
| 1866 to 1867..... | 8,192 | 49,519 | 33,633 | 719 | 10,847 79 | 2,718 79 | 542 | 2,121 76 |
| 1867 to 1868..... | 8,599 | 51,740 | 35,617 | 819 | 12,094 00 | 3,177 69 | 703 | 2,203 45 |
| 1868 to 1869..... | 8,944 | 53,610 | 54,092 | 896 | 23,333 45 | 3,644 49 | 796 | 2,057 76 |
| 1869 9 months..... | 7,383 | 39,077 | 33,207 | 642 | 13,445 24 | 3,180 85 | 659 | 1,688 22 |
| 1869 to 1870..... | 8,655 | 55,565 | 56,128 | 713 | 15,102 11 | 4,214 42 | 1,107 | 2,493 60 |
| 1870 to 1871..... | 8,835 | 53,005 | 53,214 | 1,100 | 14,898 03 | 3,349 77 | 1,065 | 2,588 31 |
| 1871 to 1872..... | 8,757 | 57,661 | 57,740 | 723 | 15,479 65 | 4,313 93 | 1,029 | 2,644 43 |
| 1872 to 1873..... | 7,568 | 57,719 | 58,202 | 635 | 16,085 28 | 4,382 79 | 1,235 | 2,406 49 |
| 1873 to 1874..... | 8,913 | 70,681 | 72,567 | 912 | 16,470 61 | 6,167 53 | 1,272 | 3,330 86 |
| 1874 to 1875..... | 9,286 | 86,880 | 91,253 | 973 | 20,640 06 | 8,105 64 | 1,311 | 3,206 15 |
| Total..... | 125,850 | 849,426 | 729,223 | 10,521 | \$201,564 00 | \$55,276 85 | 12,342 | \$36,729 28 |

The Society at present maintains the following industrial schools:

| Name and location. | No. on rolls. | Average attendance. |
|---|---------------|---------------------|
| Cottage Place School, 204 Bleecker street..... | 466 | 149 |
| East River School, 206 East Fortieth street..... | 517 | 225 |
| Hudson River School, 350 West Twenty-seventh street..... | 347 | 138 |
| Avenue B School, 607 East Fourteenth street..... | 227 | 105 |
| German School, 272 Second street..... | 536 | 185 |
| Italian School, 156 Leonard street..... | 825 | 342 |
| Lord School, 135 Greenwich street..... | 440 | 100 |
| Fifty-third Street School, 340 West Fifty-third street..... | 705 | 313 |
| Park School, Sixty-eighth street, near Broadway..... | 905 | 304 |
| Fifty-second Street School, Fifty-second street, near Eleventh avenue..... | 625 | 230 |
| Lincoln School, 314 East Thirty-fifth street..... | 271 | 88 |
| Newsboys' Night School, 9 Duane street..... | 368 | 94 |
| Girls' Industrial School, 120 West Sixteenth street... | 294 | 93 |
| Fourth Ward School, 52 Market street..... | 479 | 88 |
| Fifth Ward School, 186 Franklin street..... | 413 | 93 |
| Avenue C School, 304 East Fourth street..... | 578 | 186 |
| Eleventh Ward School, 709 East Eleventh street..... | 834 | 240 |
| Thirteenth Ward School, 327 Rivington street..... | 516 | 196 |
| Fourteenth Ward School, 93 Crosby street..... | 631 | 218 |
| Sixteenth Ward School, 211 West Eighteenth street.. | 384 | 127 |
| Water Street School, 14 Dover street..... | 96 | 45 |
| Total this year..... | 10,357 | 3,559 |
| Last year..... | 10,288 | 3,556 |
| Increase this year..... | 69 | 3 |

The cost of maintaining the thirty-four schools for the last year was as follows, viz.:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Rent of rooms..... | \$12,032 26 |
| Salaries of superintendent and eighty-three teachers..... | 41,046 01 |
| Food, clothing, fuel, etc..... | 23,634 75 |
| Expense on account of thirteen evening schools..... | 3,688 72 |
| Total..... | \$80,401 74 |

Several of these schools were visited, and the following notes taken:

The Hudson River Industrial School

Is under the charge of Miss L. Noble, an efficient lady, who has been thirteen years a teacher, and ten years devoted to this work, in which she is evidently deeply interested. The school is divided into three departments, infant, middle and graduating classes. The rooms were furnished with large patent benches and abundance of black-boards.

The attendance on the day of visitation, October 7th, was one hundred and ten, which was considered small. The largest daily attendance during the past year was said to be one hundred and forty-five. The ages of the children range from three years up to seventeen. In regard to the school and its workings, Miss Noble gave us the following information:

"The children go from us into the grammar department of the Public Schools. They stay with us on the average about two years. Their attendance is irregular. They stay two weeks and are gone two weeks. When they are not working, our old scholars come back to us. I try to teach them as much in a small space of time as possible, and slide the different grades of the school into one. I have four grades. I cannot classify them properly. My grade runs from about the fourth to the first. I have a grammar class, a class in fractions, a class that have gone through geography, and then a class that are beginning it. I use the object system of teaching. The usual routine is to call the children to order, sing one or two hymns, read a lesson from the Bible, and then the children recite the Lord's Prayer. This forms our opening exercises. Then we proceed with the work of the day. We have arithmetic classes, reading classes, spelling classes, both written and oral, geography lessons, and three times a week we have composition and letter writing. In the afternoon the sewing teacher takes a class. The infant class take lessons in sewing every afternoon except Friday. The larger children sew every other day. They make all their own clothing. In this way we clothe the children. The effect of this is to make them capable women. The secret of so much poverty is that the mothers have never been taught to work. Mothers do not know how to sew. We are obliged to make even the jackets that we give them!

"By observation and strictness we keep the children clean. Every morning I examine the condition of their faces and hands, and once a month I examine their heads. We have a washing room down stairs. We did have a bathing room, but found it rather detrimental to us. My class and the second class are very proud of their appearance. If a boy is particularly clean I call the attention of the other boys to it. A great deal of public spirit may be created in a school if you begin right. You can put a great deal of public spirit into your school if you let the children think that they can do right. I have boys that

swear fearfully down town, but they are very careful not to use any profane language before me. We have very little fighting to trouble us. We have found that a very difficult matter to overcome, but now we get along very nicely. Every Friday afternoon the teachers report to me children who have come to school every day during the week with clean hands. The children come from some of the most filthy homes, and we reach mothers through the children. The janitress teaches them how to sweep floors and scrub. She goes along with them and tells them the reason why every thing should be done in a particular manner.

"We give a warm dinner every day to the children. This is a donation from a wealthy lady, the late Mrs. James J. Jones. It is a life memorial for that purpose. She died a year ago last August. She has provided this dinner for the children for eight years. She was in the habit of coming in here every week to see the children, and, if any of them did not look just right, she used to tell me to get a pair of shoes, a garment, or something else, for the child.

"We have a Board of Lady Managers connected with the school who take a great deal of interest in it. Many of them belong to wealthy families. We don't give out clothes very promiscuously. The children must earn them. We found when we pursued that plan that the children go to another school a week and get clothes, and then come to us, get the same here, stay awhile, and go away again.

"We keep Christmas by having a Christmas tree and a good dinner. We also give a good dinner at Thanksgiving. In summer we have an ice cream festival."

The school contains a good circulating library. This was begun by Mrs. Jones, who gave to it the first contribution of books, consisting of one hundred volumes. It is called Mrs. Jones' library, out of compliment to that lamented lady.

Miss Noble, in speaking on the point of visiting her scholars, said: "My children follow me more than I follow them. They meet me in the streets and speak to me, or say something that I have taught them before."

Our visit was entirely unlooked for, but the working of the school was most gratifying. The teacher seemed to possess the respect, as well as the affection, of the whole school, and the influence of her cheerful disposition seemed to brighten the faces of the children like a stream of sunshine.

The Italian School

Is under the charge of the Children's Aid Society and an Italian sub-committee, composed of Mrs. E. P. Fabbri, Prof. V. Botta, Messrs. G. Albinola, E. G. Fabbri and O. Fabbicotti.

The following is a brief sketch of its history as furnished by the Secretary of the Children's Aid Society: "Twenty years ago large numbers of poor Italian children, engaged as street musicians, news-boys, boot-blacks and the like, were found to be growing up utterly without education or moral discipline. They were either the children of those who were driven from Italy during the revolution of 1848 and 1849, or of poor people who came hither to better their condition. They were packed and crowded in tenement houses in the neighborhood of the Five Points. In a small upper room would be found frequently several families, men, women, children, dogs and monkeys, all crowded together, and the place filled with an almost unbearable odor. In the midst of all this confusion and dirt the women might often be seen rolling the agreeable preparation of macaroni for their families. The Italians seemed at that time the dirtiest population in the city, and the children the most unbefriended. The experiment of an industrial and common school, entirely devoted to their interests, was tried for their improvement in 1855, and placed under the charge of Signor A. E. Cerqua, an Italian gentleman who was then an exile from Italy for political reasons, but who has since been made 'Chevalier of the Order of the Crown.'

"The greatest difficulties to be overcome were the greed of the parents to get all possible earnings from their children, without regard to their education, and the existence among them of a species of serfdom, whereby a child in Italy could be apprenticed to an association and sent by it roaming over the world with some hard and cruel master. This 'padroni' business was the means of degrading a great number of little children every year.

"But this, through the efforts of the Children's Aid Society and the assistance of the Italian Consul-General Chevalier De Luca, has been broken up by act of the Italian Parliament and similar acts passed in this country.

"Mr. Cerqua opened his school with an attendance of only thirty, in a room kindly furnished gratuitously by the Rev. Mr. Pease, of the Five Points Mission. In this room, and others generously loaned in the locality, the school continued its patient efforts at reform and education during a number of years. But few of the children had any knowledge at first of English. They acquired the language, however, with reasonable readiness, and since that time, under the methods of phonetic instruction introduced by the Society, they have learned English with remarkable rapidity. The study, however, in which Italian children are most successful is arithmetic. As year by year passed by, the school, under the constant exertions of Mr. Cerqua, began gradually to attain greater size and solidity. The prejudices of the bigoted were overcome, the ignorant began to see the advantages

of learning, and the Italian population gradually felt that the school belonged to them and was designed for their benefit. Nothing, however, could have sustained it through many depressions of business, if the American public had not come forward generously with their subscriptions, and carried it on during the various panics and the civil war. The children soon began to show the natural mental improvement which would result from such faithful instruction. When the school was opened, only two in the whole colony had any knowledge of writing, and these two had to perform all the writing and reading of English or Italian letters for their more ignorant compatriots, receiving, in each instance, from 25 to 50 cents for the service. Now, out of the thousands of children who have been in the school, only the youngest are unable to write, while the copy-books of the school show as good work as those of any industrial school of the Children's Aid Society, and the graduates of the school, both young men and women, can write as correct and business-like letters as any of their class in the city.

"In 1864, Mr. Fabbri conceived the idea of forming a building fund for this school, opening it with \$95. This sum he gradually increased by his own liberal donations and those of his friends. Subsequently he became Trustee of the Children's Aid Society, and a considerable addition to the fund was made by the friends of that Society. When, at length, the amount had reached the sum of \$22,000, Mr. Fabbri consented to purchase lots and to erect a suitable building with this money, provided the Society would take upon itself the balance of the expense, to an amount not exceeding \$30,000."

The new building was opened and occupied on April 27, 1875. Our first visitation was made October 12. The house is a four-story structure in highly ornamental style of architecture. The first story is of free stone, the remainder of brick. The interior finish of the building is substantial and elaborate. The rails of the balustrades are of carved oak.

Evening school is held on the premises from four to six and from seven to nine o'clock, and during the winter the attendance is between three and four hundred.

The house contains a nicely furnished reading room, with a library and newspapers. This contained the portraits of a son of the king of Italy, and of "Margarita de Savoja," which were presented to the institution by the Italian consul. It also contained a painting of George Washington.

The school is still under the superintendence of Mr. A. E. Cerqua, who teaches English to a class of adults. The principal of the school is Mrs. E. T. Alleyn. She is assisted by three other ladies.

The first floor of the house contains several class-rooms and the reading room. The school-rooms were brightened with mottoes in

excellent taste. The furniture and accessories of the house are in keeping with modern improvements. The second floor is a counterpart of the first, and contains the music room. This room, as we were informed, was furnished by the Society. The young men who wish to learn music pay for their teacher. They study here and become accomplished enough to make music a source of living. One little company of them, instead of spending their leisure time in the evenings in drinking shops and gambling saloons, have devoted themselves to the scientific study of music, and under the instruction of Prof. Conterno, have formed a competent band of musicians.

On the third floor is the class room for the little ones, also a large assembly room, with an organ, where festivals are held. The walls and ceilings are tinted, producing a pleasing effect. On this floor is also a sewing room for girls, with two sewing machines. The children, we were informed, are supplied with clothes and presents on Christmas.

In the basement are the washing apartments for both girls and boys, several bathing tubs and a large washing room, with combs, towels and soap. Our first visit was made by daylight, and the house was then empty. We could only note its excellent appointments and the neat condition in which every thing was kept. On October 25th we visited it at night.

Descending into the comfortable bath-room, we found in one room four boys busy combing their hair after bathing; and, peeping into the bath rooms, we found six boys luxuriating in the water, two being in each tub. On the other side of the hall we were informed, the girls were bathing and washing under the charge of a lady. About one-fifth of the scholars are sent down to bathe at one time, and when these are through, others take their places, and so on till all get a bath. These children had been out during the day working in various ways for a livelihood.

We found about three hundred pupils in the school, in addition to a class of about thirty-five adults who came to learn English.

The first or primary class of the children are taught by Leigh's phonetic system. They learn numeration only to hundreds and the addition tables. There were boys between fifteen and sixteen years old in this class. It contained thirty-two girls and forty boys.

In the second class the children combine sounds, begin with primary lessons in writing and learn numeration to thousands, the addition table and multiplication table.

The third class use the first and second readers, and learn numeration to millions.

The fourth class use the second and third readers, and study geography and writing. The principal informed us that formerly two-thirds of the school were girls, but now it is the reverse.

An attempt is made to teach industries. The principal says: "During the afternoon there is a session from four to six, when we teach a sewing-machine class. We have only two sewing machines, but I wish we had twenty-two."

In regard to the character of the children, she remarks: "The children are very tractable. Their parents as a class never drink. I have visited among them and never found one drunk. They live in horrid places. The homes are wretched in the extreme; but those who are every day working keep their homes very nice."

In the school-room we noticed ten mottoes worked on perforated board. These were all neatly done, and were, we were informed, the work of the girls.

The teacher said: "It is impossible to imagine the amount of good that is done by these schools. As a class, the children who attend cannot go to the public schools, because of their inability to be present, perhaps, more than three days in the week, and many of them are too poor to dress to go at all. A great many, even if they went, could not stay all day."

The success of the enterprise has been so great in reforming the class for whom it was intended, that it is said that "so far as is known, out of the children numbering about five thousand who have been in the school, hardly three individuals have ever been arrested, and not one, so far as is known, for stealing."

The Cottage Place School

Was visited October 12, at which date it enrolled one hundred and eighty scholars, both sexes being admitted. It occupied three rooms on the second floor of the house, each room having a separate class.

The children receive a common school education, and are provided with a meal during the day. In addition to the day school, there is a reading room opened every night at eight o'clock. The school possesses a piano and a library.

This neighborhood is one of great wretchedness, and the boys, as might be expected, are of the worst kind. The following fully describes the situation:

"Most of our boys, this winter, have been truly hard cases, rough materials, daily exposed to most corrupting examples, and we have had many anxious fears about them; some days the teacher has been so tried and discouraged that she felt she could not labor with them longer; then would come the suggestion that they were the proper subjects for our care and sympathy."

THE CHILDREN'S FOLD.

New York.

This institution was organized in 1867, and grew out of the personal ministry of the Rev. Edward Cowley, its President. Its object is to support and educate those children who are found by means of the Episcopal mission, especially at Blackwell's, Ward's and Randall's islands. The children of sick emigrants, just landed upon our shores, are alike received. Children were at first boarded with different parties in the city. In May, 1867, limited apartments for their care were hired, and they were brought together and supported mainly by a ladies' association, attached to the institution. This association bore the burden of supporting fourteen children, defraying the expenses of rent, fuel, lights, servants' wages, food, clothing and undertaking the personal supervision and the whole responsibility of the Home till 1871, when the Society became incorporated and a Board of Trustees was formed. The Home, in February, 1869, was removed to 1119 Second avenue, and on the 1st of May, 1871, it was again removed to 437 East Fifty-eighth street, and, in 1875, it changed its location once more, for its present commodious apartments on 157 East Sixtieth street. The Fold is governed by a Board of Trustees, of whom Rev. Edward Cowley is President, and the Right Rev. Horatio Potter, D. D., LL. D., is Visitor.

The number of inmates at the date of visitation, October 9, was fifty-three, the sexes being about equally divided. The house was under the charge of Rev. Mr. Cowley, assisted by his wife. It bore evidence of being well kept, and being under the immediate eye of a Christian lady, it partook largely of the informal character of a well-ordered home. The dormitories were well furnished, and the house appeared to possess all needed accessories for the preservation of health, while the children's appearance was a sufficient evidence of good cheer. We are indebted to Mrs. Cowley for the following information, relative to the aims and workings of the Fold :

"Its benefactions are confined to no particular church, orphans, half-orphans and destitute children generally being admitted. Boys are not received over nine years old nor under three. The children are supplied from various sources. Three of those at present in the house belong to a woman whose husband deserted her. One of the girls is an orphan whose father was employed in the American Express Company, but died, leaving no provision for his family. Our children often come from families who have suffered a great deal before letting their wants be known. A family of children was brought here some time ago by the mother, whose husband was unkind to her. Some of

our children have both parents living, and are worse off than if they had no parents. We take children for a longer or shorter time. We give them a good religious education. We have morning and evening prayers. Every Saturday is devoted to preparing for Sunday. All the children know their catechism. They learn the collect for every Sunday in the year. They have good secular instruction as well. The oldest children attend the public schools. The children measure themselves by other children. Fourteen of the children were on the roll of honor in the public schools last week. They have to be extra good to get there. They learn their lessons at home in the evening, and recite them before going to the public school. If they are not old enough to bring their books home with them, I make them learn tables or spell. The children are taught music every week. We have a teacher who comes from New Jersey."

The children sang for us very sweetly, "Glory to Thee who safe has kept," and repeated in a manner showing perfect familiarity with it, the Duty Toward Your Neighbor, in the catechism of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

In answer to inquiries about the industrial feature of the house, Mrs. Cowley said: "That is *the* feature. The children do the work of the house; they know how to make up rooms, to sweep and dust. It is the ambition of the youngest ones to be able to wash. As they get old enough they learn to wash, cook and sew. They learn to set table properly, and are able to set a table in any respectable family. We do not bake our own bread, because we have not got the conveniences for that, but they can make muffins, gingerbread, etc. Every Saturday during the winter the girls have a sewing class. The older ones make their own clothes, and are taught to use the sewing machine." In regard to placing out children Mrs. Cowley says: "If the girls are surrendered to us, we keep them till they are able to take care of themselves. Boys are put out at an early age."

The average age of the children in the Fold on the day of visitation was about eight years.

This institution, though small, appears to be doing a very thorough and satisfactory work. Its strong characteristic is that of a family home, with a lady and gentleman of refinement at its head. While its industrial feature is marked, moral and religious principles are faithfully inculcated.

The bringing of such influences to bear on destitute children must be regarded as the highest kind of benevolence, and the good people conducting the Fold are certainly deserving of the thanks of the public for their devotion to the children's cause. No financial statement or other statistics relating to its work the past year, has been furnished.

THE FIVE POINTS HOUSE OF INDUSTRY.

New York.

The character of the field in which this work is carried on is so well known as to scarcely need a repetition here. Its population at one time was made up mainly of the most wicked and abandoned of the people. Prostitution and intemperance were fearfully prevalent, and dens of thieves were on every hand. The spot well deserved its notoriety. The Rev. Lewis M. Pease commenced laboring here about 1850 as a missionary, and the Five Points House of Industry originated from his labors. For the first two or three years Mr. Pease carried on the mission alone, after which he resigned its direction to a body of corporators consisting of thirty gentlemen. From this Board nine Trustees were elected. The Rev. Mr. Pease was the first Superintendent, and remained in that office till 1858.

The Five Points House of Industry is devoted mainly to the preservation of children from suffering and crime. They are received, cleansed, clothed, fed, taught, and furnished with labor as early as practicable, or sent to a home in the country. Assistance is also rendered to adults, as far as it can be done without encouraging a dependence upon charity, and efforts are made to reform and procure employment for such as are willing to labor.

The inmates on the day of visitation, October 4th, numbered two hundred and ninety-three. Of these one hundred and forty-nine were boys, one hundred and six girls, and thirty-eight women. The day school for that day had three hundred and forty children in attendance. This included both children residing in the house and those from outside. From the Superintendent, Mr. Wm. F. Barnard, the following information was obtained regarding the scope of the charity: "Three classes are kept in the house.

"1st. Those who are given to us by their parents, or others who have the right to commit.

"2d. Children whose parents are unable to provide for them for the present. It very frequently happens that a mother may come to us with several children on her hands, where some misfortune has overtaken her. She is obliged to break up house for a time, hoping in a few weeks to be able to provide for them herself. She asks us to take them in till she is able to care for them.

"3d. Boarders. These children come in this way: A mother or a father with children on their hands are not able to stay at home to take care of them. They must go out and earn their living. They cannot afford to pay for their board in families. We take them and charge according to their ability to pay.

"The ages of the children vary from two and a half up to fourteen years. We receive none before they are weaned. The average age of those given up to us is about six. The average age of the children in the house is eight. Those given up to us we keep here for a while. We do not dispose of them at first. We usually wait a few months to see if the child shows any special aptitude for one thing more than another. Then having ascertained what this is, if we possibly can we put the child where its talent will be developed. In regard to the other children, if we find their parents neglect them we procure places for them ourselves.

"The women in the house belong to a class who are addicted to drink. Perhaps some of them may be classed under the head of fallen women. They are homeless and friendless, and want employment. They are willing to come in here and do our work for their board, with the understanding that we find them employment. We thus open here a kind of intelligence office. They have nothing whatever to do with the children, and do not come in contact with them.

"The industrial education of the children is well attended to. The boys are instructed in sewing, type-setting and telegraphy. This latter is taught gratuitously by a lady.

In the shoe shop a man is employed to make and repair shoes. The Superintendent says: "He also teaches the boys to repair shoes. We depend for our supply on donations of second-hand shoes. They are repaired in the house by the boys and this man." These, after being repaired or remade, were said to be more durable than new shoes.

"The girls are taught sewing, and it is contemplated giving them lessons in cooking. This industrial training is taught systematically, and, yet, is not allowed to interfere with their regular school exercises.

"In placing children out, we do not bind them. Our present plan is to make the parties, taking children, sign a paper, agreeing to feed and clothe them, and provide for their religious and secular education, giving them an outfit and a sum of money when they become of age. We hear frequently from the children placed out. But we have no visiting committee."

The institution occupies two large brick buildings, one of them comparatively new, in which are located the school rooms, children's dormitory and play-room and the nursery, while in the other are the apartments for the women, the hospital, dining room, etc.

The dormitories were clean, furnished with iron bedsteads and straw beds. No pillows are used. The bed clothing was abundant. The rooms are ventilated by wall flues. The nursery is furnished with iron cribs.

The sewing room is about twenty-five by forty, and at the time of

visitation contained about thirty little girls busily plying their needles and thread. At the end of this room were little play-houses fitted up in the shape of booths, with tapestry curtain entrances, full of toys. While visiting this room the little girls sang "Never alone is the Christian." The room contained four sewing machines.

The school room occupies the whole of one of the floors of the new building, and is divided by glass sliding doors to form class rooms for the separate grades. The room is furnished with patent desks and other suitable appliances for school purposes. It also contains a piano.

The bath-room is provided with a large tub about twelve feet by two and a half. The children wash in running water. The towels were found to be on rollers, and were said to be changed every day.

In the dining room the children stand at meals. Both crockery and tinware are used, also knives and forks.

There were forty-seven inmates of the hospital on the day of visitation, only eleven of whom were confined to their beds. Seven had typhoid fever. Most of the diseases are of a scrofulous character. The hospital is kept clean, its walls are brightened with illuminated cards, and unlike the children's dormitories, its beds are provided with pillows.

The buildings are heated by stoves and furnaces, lighted with gas, and supplied with water from the city. Careful provision is made in the event of fire. On the several floors are fire extinguishers, and a fire-proof stair-case communicates with each story of the building.

The prevalence of typhoid fever in this institution naturally leads to the question of its ventilation, and the examination of this feature in the construction of this building is believed to be a subject worthy the consideration of the benevolent supporters of this large charity. The play-yard, it was observed, is surrounded on three sides by the high walls of buildings, and on the fourth is also partially inclosed. Thus it would seem that the foul gases accumulating have no means of escape, but remain in the inclosure as at the bottom of a well. It may be found that there is an insufficient current of pure air circulating in the play-yard, or possibly lack of sun exposure to insure health. The yard, on the day of visitation, contained a large number of children, and seemed to be too contracted.

The institution possesses a spacious chapel, where religious services are regularly held, and where an effort is made to christianize and elevate the degraded mass around its doors. The work being done by the House of Industry is very extended, and requires a liberal support to meet its daily needs. Since its organization nearly twenty thousand persons have been relieved through its instrumentality, and seven hundred and ninety-four were admitted during the past year. The number of orphan children in the institution October 1, 1875, was seven, the number of half-orphans seventy-three, and the number having both

parents living, one hundred and seventy-one. The nativity of the parents could not be ascertained. They were, it was stated, "mostly all foreign." Sixty-six were partially supported by friends, and one hundred and eighty-five wholly by the institution. During the year fourteen children were adopted, two hundred and seventy-six were returned to parents or guardians, and fourteen died.

The invested funds of the Society amount to \$52,000. Its total indebtedness is \$48,573.09. Its expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$69,608.33, of which about \$35,000 was paid to liquidate indebtedness.

THE FOUNDLING ASYLUM OF THE SISTERS OF CHARITY IN THE
CITY OF NEW YORK,

New York,

Is situated on Sixty-eighth street, between Third and Lexington avenues. The building, of brick and stone, is imposing in appearance and intended to embody in its construction all the latest improvements. "In the center of the lot, and facing on Sixty-eighth street, is the administrative building, ninety-nine feet wide by sixty feet deep, and five stories high, exclusive of the basement. In the basement of this building are the kitchen for the community, dining rooms and offices. The main story contains the chief offices, reception rooms and parlors for visitors, the community room, and an apartment for the resident physician. In the second story are the apartments for the Sisters, and the sewing and linen rooms; the third, fourth and fifth stories will contain dormitories, and the upper floor an infirmary.

"On each side of the main building, and parallel therewith, will be the ward buildings, with large pavilions at each end, making the total length of each one hundred and sixty-four feet. One of these buildings is now completed; it is three stories in height, exclusive of the basement. They are placed a sufficient distance apart from each other to allow an ample free circulation of air and a full play of the sun's rays around them; to aid which, the corridors connecting these several buildings with each other, above the basement story, consist of open arched passages extending but one story in height. The ward-rooms are each thirty by ninety feet. The south pavilion contains, on each story, one room for the Sister in charge of the adjoining ward, a linen store-room, two private rooms, and a closet and bath-room. The north pavilion likewise contains, on each story, a children's wash-room, a small kitchen, a room for steam drying of linen, and a closet and bath-room for nurses. In the basement story,

under the ward buildings, are the offices for the physicians, dispensaries, waiting rooms, nurses' and sewing rooms, small kitchens, store-rooms and closets.

"The heights of the several stories, in the center and ward buildings, are as follows: Basement, ten feet six inches; first story, fifteen feet six inches; second story, fourteen feet six inches; third, fourth and fifth stories, fourteen feet high.

"At the center of the lot on Sixty-ninth street, there is a two-story building, thirty-one feet deep and ninety feet front, to be connected by corridors with the several ward buildings. In the first story are placed the laundry, a steam drying room, an ironry and a large kitchen for the general purposes of the establishment. In the basement cellar are an ice-vault, store-rooms, engineer's rooms and coal-bins. The west side of the second story of this building contains sleeping apartments for laundresses and servants, and the entire eastern side is devoted to the purposes of a quarantine. Thus this portion of the establishment is completely isolated from the children's wards. The mortuary receiving vault is in a portion of the cellar under the north end of the chapel building."

The buildings are heated by steam and lighted by gas. The institution is under the charge of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity of Mt. St. Vincent.

The primary object of the institution is to prevent infanticide. Those identified with the work assert that "there is no class of suffering humanity whose cry for help and life is so sad and touching as the foundling's. Scarcely has the unfortunate inhaled the vital air, unaware of all of life except its first necessities and sufferings, before its disposal becomes a grievous question with the attendants upon its birth."

The work was begun on Twelfth street, in a private dwelling-house, Oct. 11, 1869, the institution having been incorporated on the 9th of October of the same year. It is stated that "many and almost insuperable difficulties necessarily attended the beginning of such an undertaking; the wants to be supplied were numerous and varied, and many voices were raised to oppose, and even to condemn, the whole work as a real evil under the guise of an imaginary good."

The first month of its existence twenty-eight little unfortunates were admitted, which the Sisters considered "abundant proof not only that vice was prevalent, and that such an asylum for the waif sorely needed, but also that the opening of the asylum had nothing whatever to do with the existence of the waif or the sin of its parents."

On the day of visitation the following interesting scrap of history was obtained from Sister M. Irene then in charge: "We began work about six years ago, without a cent, in a dwelling-house on Twelfth

street, our principal object being to prevent infanticide and save the reputation of the women. Since that small beginning we have received over six thousand children and over one hundred mothers. The three Sisters who began the work with me were Sister Teresa Vincent, Sister Ann Aloisius and Sister Frances Liguori. They all continue in it except one. We remained on Twelfth street one year, and then rented a house on Washington Square, paying \$7,000 a year rent. We remained there three years. In the meantime we obtained this lot of ground from the city on lease for ninety-nine years, at a nominal rent. By an act of the Legislature the city was authorized to grant us \$100,000, provided we could procure a similar amount by private subscriptions. We collected it in about a month. At one single fair we realized \$71,000. The rest was derived from private subscriptions. The sum of \$320,000 has been expended on the property, buildings, etc. We left Washington Square and came to our new building Feb. 1, 1873. We had about fifty children then. We commenced this work with two cups and saucers. The first morning we had to beg our breakfasts. We slept on straw on the floor the first year, rolling the mattresses up during the day." Since that time about a million of dollars have been expended by the Sisters, and they now have what is said to be one of the best buildings in the city.

On the date of visitation, October 9, there were five hundred children, and about one hundred nurses in the institution. In addition, about one thousand children were being boarded out, at the expense of the asylum. These children are brought, at frequent intervals, by those having them in charge, to the Sisters, to be examined as to their health, etc. On the Wednesday preceding our visit, one thousand children were thus brought to the asylum, and, after passing inspection, were taken back to the homes in which they were being nursed.

"A great many of the children in the asylum," Sister Irene said, "are between the ages of two and five, the oldest child is about six years. Our first plan was to take the children and keep them; now we return them to their mothers, who sometimes come and claim their children. There is no child that cannot, from its first arrival, be traced. We have returned hundreds to their parents."

The children we found to be generally intelligent, and remarkably tidy in their personal appearance. The little girls had their hair neatly tied, and wore plaid dresses and check blouses with colored sashes around their waists. Among the number were two colored children; one of these, a little girl, had a red bow in her hair, and looked particularly bright. The Sister informed us that they had forty-eight colored children, who were being boarded out and nursed.

Nursery No. 1 contains sixteen iron cribs and sixteen iron bedsteads. Each of the cribs accommodates two infants; the larger beds, which

stand one beside each crib, are for the nurses. The cribs have straw mattresses and husk beds, double blankets and white covering, the whole being protected with white mosquito nets.

The bathing room is furnished with French tubs, and was very neat and clean. There are no projections about the bath-tubs to injure a child's person, in the process of bathing. The water is let in under a lip.

A drop for soiled clothes extends throughout the building, and a dumb-waiter from the kitchen communicates with every floor. The floors above Nursery No. 1 are counterparts of this. On the upper floor, a room with immense windows, and having good sun exposure, is used for cases of pneumonia. "During the year 1874," says Sister Irene, "in the month of January, an epidemic broke out of purulent ophthalmia. One of the Sisters who attended the children lost one of her eyes, and came very near losing her life, in consequence of being inoculated with this disease."

In the play-room were a flock of children, boys and girls, dressed very neatly, and a lady entertaining them by playing an organ. Their average age was about five years, and there were in all about one hundred and thirty. The children wear shoes and stockings. Their diet is generous, consisting of bread and butter for breakfast, roast beef for dinner, and bread and milk for supper. They have, it was stated, an abundant supply of milk. All wear flannel drawers.

In the kitchen are two large copper boilers; one of a capacity of twenty-five gallons for milk, and another of thirty gallons for bread and milk. The meats are chopped with a machine. The school room is a pleasant, well-lighted, airy apartment, and contains a piano. It is intended to adopt here the *kindergarten* system of instruction.

Connected with the institution is also a bakery.

In the building designated as the quarantine were, in one room, six little ones afflicted with whooping cough, and, in another, fourteen. Another department is called the Syphilitic Ward. This exhibited a sad sight; six little children, all bearing the woful marks of the sins of their parents. The quarantine department is under the charge of two Sisters. A very large percentage of the children, we were informed, are of foreign parentage.

Pursuant to chapter 644 of the Laws of 1874, the city allows thirty-eight cents a day per capita for the children supported. Their names, date of admission, etc., are duly registered on arrival, and if they are put out to nurse, the name of the nurse, with other particulars, is entered on the register. A separate account is kept for each child that is placed out to nurse. The records and accounts are kept with admirable neatness by Sister Maria.

The rule is absolute, never to take more than one child from the same mother.

The condition of the little foundlings on arrival is said to be quite deplorable. Those engaged in the work say: "The only wonder is that any can be saved, when we consider how difficult it is to rear a child, even with all its mother's care; yet the poor little outcast, it would seem, is expected to live through neglect and ill-treatment, which children of a year's growth could scarcely survive. Language would fail to describe the condition of many who are left in the crib—to be cared for a little time and then to be buried. No human skill could restore such little ones, yet they often linger for days, sometimes for weeks, with just enough of vitality to breathe."

As further illustrating the work of the Sisters, we quote the following from their last annual report:

"The reception crib is no longer exposed. This is done to avoid imposition; for, strange though it may appear, many mothers, in order to save the expense and time of nursing their legitimate children, have been known to abandon them for a time to the asylum through the medium of the crib. This was a fraud upon the asylum and the city treasury, but it cannot, under the present system, be practiced any longer. Only illegitimate children, who are exposed to destruction, through the shame or poverty of their mothers, are now received. These, too, must be born within the limits of our own city. No information is required or sought as to names or family, etc.

"Children of wet nurses are never received. This exclusion is based alike upon duty, morality and controlling economy. The asylum needs this class of nurses; the mother who wishes to leave her child has always the opportunity of nursing it there. If she will not, but abandons her child, she exhibits a heartlessness which we feel ourselves obliged to rebuke and oppose. Besides, the reception, nursing and maintaining of the offspring of a mother who declines to perform her maternal duty toward it, preferring to her own infant a stranger's child, would be an inexcusable waste of the contributions of our friends and the public at large.

"As far as practicable, it is our aim and effort to induce the mother to remain to nurse and care for her offspring. Thus affectionate endearments between mother and child necessarily follow, and sunshine is poured upon the hearts of both. This, in fact, has become a very considerable, although a secondary object of the institution. The vast amount of good effected even in this way is greatly encouraging, and of itself stimulates to renewed and more zealous endeavors. Employment is also given to many poor women as in-door nurses. A double purpose is thus subserved. The maternal instinct is thus kept alive in many a heart that would otherwise be dead to that sweet and

salutary affection which both softens and elevates a woman's nature; and many poor women, who might otherwise be outcasts from society, are enabled to earn an honest livelihood without any exposure of their unhappy fall. In this new outgrowth from the original and more immediate object of the Foundling Asylum, the hapless unwedded mother sees the institution expand from a mere ark of safety to her child into a protector and savior of herself. Thereby she is screened from the mocks and scorns of a heartless world, saved from destruction, and restored to home and virtue. There are instances in which women married form the exception above mentioned, and are afforded shelter for themselves and their legitimate offspring; but this only occurs when circumstances and actual necessity oblige them to such a course. No outward distinction, however, is at any time made. Thus the wedded mother is saved from humiliation, and the unwedded from the mortification calculated to dispirit her. Nor can the visitor distinguish the one from the other.

"It must always be kept in view, however, that the main object of the asylum is to prevent the unnatural and dreadful crime of infanticide, to preserve to God and society lives which would otherwise be sacrificed to cloak the unfortunate mother's shame, or to relieve her of a burden she felt she could not bear. To save these innocent victims from the merciless hands of selfish and cruel parents, to secure to them at worst a natural death, and if they outlive the period of infancy, to put them in the way of being brought up virtuously, is, in a vast city like New York, a work of crying necessity, which ought to enlist the sympathies of every philanthropic heart.

"The nursing of children outside of the asylum entails a heavy expense upon the institution, but it cannot at present possibly be escaped. Nevertheless it is a great benefit to many of the poor people of our city. It gives employment to nearly a thousand women, and many families have been kept together by means of this resource. For, although the sum allowed for each child is small, amounting to only \$10 per month, yet this may pay the rent, and thus secure a roof for the family, which is in itself a great charity and a social benefit. So eager, indeed, are the many for this employment, that an average of twenty or thirty daily present themselves for nurslings. Of this number of applicants only those are employed who present a certificate of good health from a physician, and another of good character from some known and reliable person. No question whatever of religion arises to determine the choice, but whoever appears likely to make the best nurse receives the preference. Yet, the good of the foundlings being our primary object, still another precaution against deception and neglect is taken.

"The services of the gentlemen of the Conference of St. Vincent

de Paul, who had kindly offered to assume the supervision of these nurses, were gratefully accepted. They make their visits at times when they suppose they are least expected, and they send in their report monthly to the asylum, giving the conditions of the children, and their reasons why the nurses should be continued or discharged. Thus they are, in a private way, organizing an efficient detective force. To these gentlemen we are thus indebted for information which has led to a great reform in our outside nursing, resulting in marked improvement in the condition of the children. The detective detailed to the asylum is also employed in continued surveillance of these nurses."

The number of persons received during the past year was 898. The total number discharged was 619. Twenty-five children were placed out by adoption, 181 returned to parents or guardians, four transferred to other institutions, three were otherwise discharged and 406 died. The average number of inmates during the year was 1,356. The number remaining, October 1, 1875, were: Boys, 690; girls, 780; total, 1,470.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$305,107.05, of which \$114,515.20 was paid to reduce its indebtedness. Its total indebtedness was \$25,873.01. Its invested fund was \$5,000.

Among the numerous model charities of New York, there are, perhaps, none that excel in order, system and condition of cleanliness the Foundling Asylum of the Sisters of Charity; while the executive ability displayed in the management of all its internal affairs commands admiration.

The following statistics are extracted from the last report of the medical attendant, Dr. Reynolds:

"During our fourth year, from October 1, 1872, to October 1, 1873, there were left at the Asylum 1,125 infants, of whom 26 were black. From October 1, 1873, to October 1, 1874, there were received 589 infants, of which number 94 were discharged and 193 died.

"At the beginning of our fifth year, October 1, 1873, we had 1,136 infants belonging to the Asylum, and during the year we received 589 infants, giving us 1,725 infants to account for. During this year 213 infants were discharged and 321 died, leaving 1,191 foundlings, October 1, 1874.

"We have been unable during the past year, 1873-4, to keep as full and as accurate statistics of our infants as during former years, on account of the confusion consequent upon moving the records, children and hospital furniture from Washington square into our new asylum, and the arranging and fitting up of the different wards. We must also crave a little kind indulgence for some slight irregularities

in our records, incident to increasing our medical staff at the beginning of the year 1874.

"But by referring to the following table for 1872-3, the condition in which the 1,125 infants which were left during that year will be seen, as also the number that survived and the causes of death in those that died:

| Whole number, from October 1, 1872, to October 1, 1873. | CONDITION UPON ENTRANCE. | | | | | | | | DISEASES WHICH CAUSED DEATH. | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--------|-------|-------|--------|------------|-------------|---------|------------------------------|-------|-------------|------------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|------------|-------------|--------------|-----------|
| | Black. | Twins. | Good. | Poor. | Dying. | Premature. | Syphilitic. | Living. | Discharged. | Died. | Intestinal. | Pulmonary. | Broncho-In- testinal. | Prematurity. | Syphills. | Inanition. | Erysipelas. | Convulsions. | Various.* |
| 1,125 | 26 | 25 | 400 | 531 | 59 | 91 | 44 | 470 | 56 | 599 | 364 | 48 | 30 | 68 | 34 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 43 |

* Marasmus, 26; Tuberculosis, 3; Chronic Hydrocephalus, 3; Tubercular Meningitis, 3; General Struma, 2; Spasm of Glottis, 2; Diphtheritic Croup, 2; Catarrhal Laryngitis, 1; Membranous Croup, 1.

"As above shown, only 400, or 35 per cent, were in a healthy condition upon entrance; while of the remaining 725, or 64 per cent, feeble and diseased, almost five per cent were dying, eight per cent premature, four per cent syphilitic. Deducting the dying, premature and syphilitic, our mortality was almost 36 per cent. As in former years, premature infants were left, weighing from one and a half to four pounds. These infants were, in many cases unavoidably, in other cases carelessly or designedly, exposed to cold on their way to the Asylum; and this exposure, added to the previous improper, or even total want of, nourishment, afforded very little chance of saving any of them.

"We can but repeat in closing what we have already said, and which seems now especially pertinent, that the success attendant upon our efforts is mainly due to the conscientious, constant and intelligent watchfulness of the Sisters of Charity, in whose charge the New York Foundling Asylum has been placed."

THE HEBREW BENEVOLENT ORPHAN ASYLUM SOCIETY OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

New York.

This society was organized April 8, 1822. The following incident is connected with its early beginning: In the spring of the year 1820, a Jew, who had been brought, in a critical condition, to the City Hos-

pital, expressed a wish to see some of his co-religionists before his death. He had been a soldier in the American war of Independence, and was without money or friends. The fact becoming known, a few gentlemen visited him and collected some money for his support. Shortly afterward the soldier died, leaving about \$300 in the hands of these gentlemen for their disposal. The question as to the best disposition of this money occasioned much deliberation and conference. It was at length decided to form a benevolent society, to whose members assistance could be given in time of need.

"In 1847, the society having perceived the necessity and felt the want of a refuge for poor Israelites that were stricken down by sickness, submitted to the Hebrew Benevolent Society and to the several Jewish congregations of New York, a proposition to unite for the erection of a hospital and for the use or investment of its general fund and a certain portion of its yearly receipts. The Hebrew Benevolent Society promptly joined in the proposal. A meeting of deputies was convened, but several of the larger congregations declining to co-operate, the project failed. The money voted for the object by the German Benevolent Society was kept apart and augmented steadily. In February, 1859, the opinion having become general that the cause of charity would be better served and greater good be effected by a consolidation, negotiations were entered into between the Hebrew Benevolent Society and the German Hebrew Benevolent Society, with this object in view.

"The German Hebrew Benevolent Society having, by a unanimous and final vote of its members, declared that 'the hospital fund now belonging to the German Hebrew Benevolent Society shall be appropriated to the establishment of an Orphan Asylum and Home for Aged and Indigent Jews,' and having settled by conference all minor matters relating to a union, the respective societies met in the month of April, 1859, when their consolidation was completed. The two societies united under the name of the Hebrew Benevolent Society of the City of New York. In April, 1860, the house No. 1 Lamartine Place was rented by the Society, and made a provisional home for orphans. In October, 1860, a grant of property was procured from the city authorities, and funds for the erection of the present Asylum were received by way of collections and donations from the different Jewish congregations and from individual co-religionists. The building was commenced in 1862. On September 30, 1863, the cornerstone of the new Asylum was laid, and the edifice dedicated to its present use November 5, 1863. In 1869, a frame building on Seventy-sixth street was appropriated for the teaching of shoemaking, and, on the 10th of June, 1870, type-setting and printing were introduced."

The institution is located on Seventy-sixth street and Third avenue.

It is governed by a Board of Directors, and is under the immediate superintendence of Rev. Jacob Cohen.

A visitation was made October 12. The building consists of a main and two wings, and is a substantial brick edifice. Its interior is enriched by tasteful embellishments. The halls are broad, and by means of stained glass in the windows, the light is softened within. The entire house is warmed by steam, and supplied with water from the city.

Orphans, half-orphans and destitute children are received. The children attend the public schools, but, in addition, there is a school on the premises for supplementing their education with Hebrew and German. Music is also a feature in the educational system. A band of musicians is made up from lads in the house, who have a taste in that direction.

In the reception room is kept, with great care, a book called the "Book of Life," in which those desiring to do so may subscribe to the objects of the Society. It is thus designated, as the names inscribed therein are supposed never to be lost. The contributing of a certain sum entitles the subscriber to a page, for private use, where the memorial of relatives and friends, who have died, may be inscribed. A form of prayer is read on the Day of Atonement, and all the names that are inscribed in this book are then read in connection with the prayer.

The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads. White fibre and moss mattresses are used. The boys' beds are two feet four inches wide, and those in the girls' dormitory are two feet six. Each inmate is furnished with a comb and brush, and also a tooth brush, which are required to be kept in their proper places.

The bath-rooms are supplied with hot and cold water. The wash-bowls are set in marble slabs. The water-closets adjoin these rooms.

The clothing of the children, we were informed, is made by an auxiliary sewing society, composed of ladies of the Jewish congregation. The Superintendent, in speaking on the subject of clothing, said: "We have to thank the auxiliary sewing society for dressing our children. They are not by any means stingy." The wardrobes for both boys and girls were well furnished and orderly kept. Each boy had a box, with his number on it, for his clothes.

The hospital room is furnished with four single, iron bedsteads. It had no inmates at the time of inspection.

The kitchen was found to be well kept and, with its brightly polished tin and copper-ware, was an attractive feature in the institution. In the children's dining-room the tables were covered with marbled, enameled cloth. Crockery plates and tin bowls are also used. Both boys and girls eat in the same dining-room. The following is the usual dietary: For breakfast, bread, butter and coffee, and sometimes

cake. White bread is given on Saturdays and Sundays, and brown bread on other days. For dinner, they have soup, meat, potatoes and other vegetables, in their season. A lunch is given in the afternoon. For supper, bread, butter and tea, and sometimes potatoes and cheese are supplied. The children were about partaking of their evening meal as we entered the room. The following blessing was asked before eating: "Blessed be Thou, Eternal God, King of the universe, who bringeth forth food from the earth." Thanks are returned after meals.

In connection with the institution is an industrial school, where the boys, who are old enough, learn printing or shoemaking. They enter at the age of fourteen, and remain until they are eighteen. The Superintendent says: "They are taught such trades as they are adapted to, some becoming printers, others shoemakers; while those who have a taste for study are sent to college. We never lose sight of those that have once been inmates here; we keep their deposits for them till they are twenty-one years of age. As they must have some incentive to work, they are paid for their services, some more and some less; but whatever sum it may be, it is kept for them."

The industrial school building is about thirty feet wide and seventy feet long, and stands directly in the rear of the asylum proper. The basement contains the engine and boiler, which supply the power for the printing department. Over this are the dining-room and storeroom. On the next floor is the printing office; over this is the shoemaker's shop, and a room in which an evening school is held. On the next floor is the dormitory, for this department.

The industrial department is under the charge of Mr. S. Arnheim, assisted by Mr. W. H. Rice. The latter gentleman is foreman of the shoe shop, while the printing department is under the immediate charge of the former. This department employs also a music teacher for the band, a proof-reader and an engineer. Particular pains are taken that no boy goes into the world before he has his trade properly learned. "Our object," says Mr. Arnheim, "is to teach them their trades thoroughly. A boy will come to me with some task hour after hour till he has done it to my satisfaction. I show them the necessity of turning out good work if they mean to get a living. I take a boy step by step till I have made him a workman, and given him a good trade. Some of our boys earn from \$8 to \$16 per week after they leave us. I have a boy that will go out in January, and he will be able to earn \$14 a week. At present we have plenty of work on hand." In the printing department the boys were engaged on a piece of work requiring some ingenuity and mechanical skill, which was being prepared for exhibition at the coming Centennial. Some neat

specimens of illuminated and other styles of printing were shown us, the work of the inmates.

On the day of visitation there were in the institution fifty-five girls and one hundred and twenty-two boys, also thirty apprentices in the industrial school.

The working force of the entire establishment was as follows: Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, Matron, Governess, two teachers, fireman, nurse, four seamstresses, cook and three kitchen girls, four chambermaids, five laundresses and two persons to do the cleaning, etc., of the industrial school. These are all paid.

The children are all of Jewish parentage; no fully grown girls are kept in the house. At the age of thirteen they are transferred to a House of Reception, where also the very little children are kept, there being no room for them in this house. The House of Reception is situated on Eighty-sixth street. The number of inmates there on the 1st of October was thirty-nine girls and twenty boys.

"We have," says the Superintendent, "also seven boys and three girls boarding out, for whom we have no room in the house. Formerly, we had a great many children boarding out. It was found difficult to oversee them all, and to meet the difficulty the House of Reception was organized. It is called the House of Reception because small children are first taken there and afterward brought here, at five years of age. The older girls learn sewing and dressmaking and all kinds of ladies' work. They have a teacher and a matron, with three domestics."

Great pains are taken to find suitable homes for the children in families. On this point the Superintendent remarks: "Whenever we find a family willing to undertake the responsibility of supervising their moral welfare, we place them there. Four of our boys are attending the New York City College. One is at present in the Sophomore class, the others are in the Freshmen class."

The institution has a circulating library for the children, containing about four hundred volumes.

The children, we were informed, bathe once a week in the winter, and almost every day in summer.

The Ladies' Sewing Society meets at the institution from November till April, every Wednesday, from ten to four o'clock. The ladies come from seventy to one hundred in number. They take upon themselves the task of clothing the orphans.

No report is at hand showing the financial condition of the Society. The number of children who have received the benefit of the institution since its organization is five hundred and sixty-five. The number in the institution October 1, 1875, was two hundred and sixty-four.

Of these fifty-four were orphans, nine half-orphans, and one had both parents living. All were of foreign parents except one.

The thoroughness of the work that is here being done, and the zeal actuating its workers, is thought to be worthy of commendation. It is but just to say that so faithful have the Hebrew people been in providing for their own poor that the cases that find their way into county poor-houses are extremely rare. In fact, in the recent examination into the causes of pauperism and crime, conducted by this Board, there was found in all the poor-houses of the State but one Jewish inmate.

HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD.

New York.

This institution is situated at the foot of Eighty-ninth and Ninetieth streets, East River, on a plot of ground containing about thirty-nine city lots.

It consists of two main buildings connected by a high brick wall, with seven adjacent cottages. One hundred and twenty-five feet east from these is the chapel and convent building, erected in 1861, which, with the addition of a building eighty by fifty feet, for Magdalens, built in 1870, presents a frontage on the river side of two hundred feet.

A building measuring fifty by ninety feet, and five stories high, was erected for the voluntary penitents in 1864, and another of equal size, contiguous to it, to serve as a House of Detention, was completed in 1869. The two houses form an edifice of fifty by one hundred and eighty feet, and extend from Eighty-sixth to Ninetieth streets. This institution, we were informed, 'was founded at the request of the late Most Reverend John Hughes, his Vicar-General, the Very Reverend D. Storrs, and some charitable ladies, who undertook to restrain young girls from leading bad lives, and to give them a home where they could be taught their duty to God and society, till reformed and restored to their families, or provided with honest employment.'

The work was begun on Fourteenth street on the 2d of October, 1857, by five *Religieuses* of the Order of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, one penitent being then received. It was incorporated November 1, 1858. In January, 1860, the institution was removed to its present retired location, at which time the number of penitents reached seventy-five.

The visitation was made October 20th, in company with Commissioner Hoguet.

The institution, under the charge of Mother Magdalena, then contained four classes of inmates.

1. Magdalens, or penitents who have been converted and are lead-

ing the life of *Religieuses* under the rule of the third order of St. Teresa.

2. Penitent women and girls who have been received in order to be converted.

3. The Preservation Class, composed of children who are in danger of falling, and mostly those of bad parents.

4. Those girls within the ages of fourteen and twenty-one committed by magistrates.

Many of the inmates have been victims of misfortune or treachery. These have, in a great many cases, been committed to the institution by the magistrates and the city makes an allowance for the maintenance of such at the rate of \$110 a year per capita.

A school is taught on the premises for such as need instruction in reading, writing and arithmetic. Ample provision is also made for their industrial training, shirt and dress making, laundry work and all kinds of domestic employment being conducted in the institution.

"More than one hundred and twenty-five of the four hundred and fifty inmates of this year were," the Sister says, "under sixteen." "A great many of these young girls come here sick. A great many tell us that they have been drugged, and while in that helpless condition have been taken advantage of. A girl was brought here the other day in boy's clothes, alive with vermin. We had to cut off all her hair. The poor child had a pretty face and it was sad to see her. Some of those who come are very bright girls; others have not much intelligence. But as a general thing the greater number are smart girls. They come here without having been taught any industry. They do not generally know how to sew, but belong to the class who go to parties, attend balls and spend their time looking in at shop windows." At the date of October 1, there were eighty-five girls in the institution under sixteen years of age.

As to the success of this work of reform, the Sister thinks that at least one-half of those that go out from the institution do well and are restored to society.

Every inmate is registered. The date of admission, name, age, birth place, birth places of parents, social, physical and mental condition, and cause of commitment are noted. The younger children are kept entirely separate from the older inmates.

The discipline is of a mild and conciliatory nature. The Sisters call them children, and they in turn address the Sisters as mothers. "It must," says the Sister, "be a very gross offense that makes us lock any of them up.

Inmates when reformed are either restored to their friends, or secured situations where they are thought to be safe. Stores are not popular with the Sisters for the disposal of their girls, owing to the tempta-

tions that arise from the loose class of persons frequently moving about them. "Ladies," they say, "are glad to receive the inmates. Some go as nursery maids, some as house maids. When we place them with ladies, we hear from them. If the ladies find that they cannot do their duty by them, they bring them back to us. In stores they get from \$6 to \$8 per week, but if a lady gives them \$2 for family service they are as well off, for they get their board, and generally their clothes in addition.

A large part of the labor of the house is employed in the laundry. Washing is taken in, and an income of \$1,000 a month is derived from this source during ten months in the year.

In connection with this institution is a farm of eighty-five acres, situated at Peekskill. The soil is somewhat rocky, but, nevertheless, well adapted to the purpose contemplated in its purchase. One thousand fruit trees have been already planted upon it. It is proposed to build here a suitable edifice for the magdalens and the children of the preservation class. The plan has already been drawn, and is very elaborate. The grounds will be laid out in lawns, roadways, graveled walks, etc., and will form a delightfully retired spot for the work to which it is to be dedicated.

This property was purchased out of a legacy left by a New York lady. It cost \$55,000.

The Mother House of this Order of Sisters is at Angers in France. In connection with the Order there is a class of *Religieuses* called Magdalens, with a Sister of the Good Shepherd as Superioress.

The whole number of persons received in the institution during the past year was 373. The whole number of inmates, children and adults, on October 1, 1875, was 440. Of these 85 were under 16 years of age. Of native parentage there were 102, and of foreign parentage, 338.

The total expenditures of the house during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$80,428.28. Of this, \$12,415 was paid to reduce liabilities. Its present indebtedness rests upon its real estate, and amounts to \$45,000.

Since the commencement of their work in New York, these good Sisters have exerted their reforming and elevating influence on nearly five thousand young girls and women, preserving the chastity of many in peril, and inducing others to turn from lives of idleness and profligacy to ways of industry and virtue. The saving to society, effected through their work, can hardly be overstated. How many wounded hearts have been healed, and how many bereaved families gladdened by the return of their lost ones, will never be known.

HOUSE OF MERCY.

New York.

This institution, having for its object the reformation of wayward girls and young women, occupies what was once an old family mansion, to which extensive additions have been made. It is beautifully situated on the banks of the Hudson, at the foot of Eighty-sixth street. The grounds are inclosed with high fences and walls, and are tastefully embellished with flowers and shrubbery. An air of peaceful seclusion pervades the place, quite in keeping with the gentle spirit of its work. Upon entering the house the eye encounters many quaint pieces of furniture, family heirlooms of the Sisters; and the æsthetic sense is gratified by the refining atmosphere which pervades the establishment.

For the past twelve years the work has been carried on by the Order of the Sisters of St. Mary of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Seven of these ladies were engaged at the date of visitation, October 22, 1875. The founder of this institution, Mrs. Wm. Richmond, wife of the Rector of St. Michael's Church, Broadway and One Hundredth street, it is said, visited the prisons and hospitals of the city, selected the most encouraging cases, and brought them to a house which she had provided for their reception, soliciting means from the benevolent for their support. The Rev. William Richmond acted as Chaplain of the institution until his death, in 1858. In 1863, the trustees placed it under the charge of the Sisters of Mercy. The institution was incorporated February 23, 1855.

At the time of our visit there were seventy-six inmates. Their average age was about seventeen; the youngest was twelve years old.

"A portion of the inmates are committed by the courts; others voluntarily surrender themselves, and a few are received upon the application of parents or friends. They are admitted for indefinite periods; but are retained, as far as practicable, until their habits are fully assured. Upon leaving the institution, if without protectors, they are placed in families, and none are discharged unless to go to good situations."

They are divided into three classes: the probationers, or first class, the middle class and the honor class. These classes dress differently, eat at separate tables, and have each its own peculiar privileges.

The chapel is fifty feet long, and terminates in an apsis. It has carved oak seats and stained glass windows imported from England. The altar and reredos in the chancel are of carved stone, and are supported by polished marble pillars; while the floor is laid with encaustic tiles. At the west end are two concealed galleries, one for

visitors, the other in communication with the infirmary for the accommodation of the sick, who are here enabled to sit in invalid chairs and listen to the service. Its font belonged originally to old St. Michael's Church, and two of its memorial windows keep ever fresh the memories of its founder, Mrs. William Richmond, and one of its early workers, Sister Jane Haight.

The infirmary is furnished with single iron bedsteads, double pillows and hair mattresses. The room was, at the time of our visit, full of sunlight. It is ventilated by flues in the walls, and has a very bright and cheerful appearance. A large iron balcony for the use of the inmates projects from the infirmary, from which a fine view of the Hudson is obtained. Adjoining the infirmary is a Sister's room, conveniently situated, to enable her to supervise the sick during the night.

The dormitory is in the dormer attic, and extends the full length of the wing. The beds are arranged on each side, and are covered with counterpanes of snowy whiteness, and made up with the utmost neatness. The furniture of the room included a stand for books, etc., with a drawer, beside each bed. The walls were pleasantly tinted, and at the side of each dormer window were hung in rustic frames pictures of home life. At the end of the dormitory were hung two prominent mottoes, "Thou God seest me," and "The eyes of the Lord are in every place." A Sister's room adjoins this.

The linen room is fitted up with cupboards. Each cupboard is divided into compartments and numbered. The clothing they contain is correspondingly numbered. The Sister informed us that the clothing of the inmates is cut out and made in the institution.

The house throughout was found to be kept in a high degree of efficiency.

The Sisters make industry a prominent feature of the institution. No domestics are employed, and in addition to the regular work of the house a large laundry business for outside parties is done by the inmates, and yet pains is taken to avoid arousing their antagonism by assigning them labor for which they have neither taste nor inclination. "We allot to them," says the Sister, "such tasks as are in keeping with their strength and preferences. One may have an aversion to sewing, another to washing or ironing. We endeavor to bear this in mind, and so adjust all the work of the house that the establishment may present the salient features of a well-ordered family. The dispositions of the girls vary. Some on their arrival are very unmanageable, but as soon as they learn that our rules are made in a spirit of kindness, they yield obedience quite cheerfully. With some it is best to reason, with others a more decisive mode of dealing is necessary. Our severest penalty, however, is bread and water for dinner."

The Sisters are well aware of the important aid rendered in the ele-

vation of the moral character by a cheerful mind and a healthy physique. Frequent out-door exercise is taken, the girls are encouraged in the culture of flowers. Every attempt is made to divert their thoughts from contemplating their past lives, and incentives are offered them to aim after something higher and nobler. Yet the Sisters do not hastily conclude that an instant relinquishment of old ways, or a satisfactory conformity to the rules of the institution, is sufficient proof of a permanent change in any inmate, but prefer to base their judgment on the matured revelations of time. On this point the Sister remarks: "If, after leaving the institution, they continue steadfast in an upright course for three or four years, we begin to think it is reformation. Still we always hope they are benefited by their sojourn with us, even when their future deportment is a source of disappointment."

The discipline of the house is of a mild character, and its reformatory work aims rather at the conversion of the heart of the fallen one than at correcting her faults, by an iron rule of retribution. The work of these Sisters is one of faith; and they are content to toil on in the path of duty, to maintain the dignity of their sex, by seeking the salvation of its fallen members; sometimes seeing the fruit of their earnest efforts, at other times unable to trace it; but at all times willing to leave results to their Lord and Master, in whose name they have undertaken the work.

HOWARD MISSION AND HOME FOR LITTLE WANDERERS.

New York.

The particulars of the establishment and workings of this institution may be gleaned from the following short outline of its history, furnished by one of its officers:

"The organization of the Howard Mission, in May, 1861, was the expression of a desire, on the part of its projectors, to render a helping hand in the work of benefiting the needy and poor in the city of New York.

"The Mission is located in the Fourth Ward, and surrounded by a region which had a population of nearly three hundred thousand inhabitants to the square mile, and where there was an average of two dwelling-houses to one grog-shop, dance-house or other establishment for the propagation of wretchedness. This region swarmed with children of the poor. A very large portion of the parents were intemperate, ignorant and vicious, having no comfortable home, nor the disposition to exert themselves in order to obtain one. The wants of such

happy and cheerful, and earning a competent support for herself and child."

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Hart's Island.

The Industrial School on Hart's Island is now but a temporary place of reception for boys committed to the school ship "Mercury."

There were but nine boys on the Island on the day of visitation, October 25. They were under the charge of Mr. Dunphy, a gentleman of experience, who resides here, having charge of a large force from Blackwell's Island, engaged in making improvements.

A painful spectacle came under our observation on the day of visitation. While standing on the dock, the steamboat arrived with supplies. It brought up sixty convicts from Blackwell's Island. In company with this gang of prisoners, closely packed in the forward part of the steamboat, were eleven boys, mostly mere children; some of them showing in their appearance great neglect and destitution. Before we left the Island, however, these little fellows had changed their clothes, and were transferred to the school ship "Mercury," wearing only pants and shirts. This association with hardened offenders was painful to behold. In contrast to this dark picture was another incident which tended to brighten the day. A large number of ladies and gentlemen had come from New York, and taken about two hundred of the boys from the school ship to Hart's Island. Here the boys were sumptuously feasted, the tables being bountifully supplied with delicacies, and brightened with flowers brought by the ladies and gentlemen from the city. The boys were not only entertained with the good things in the way of feasting, but with what was far better, kind words and wise counsels; the festival culminating in the ceremony of receiving the boys into the church by the rite of confirmation. Such kindly attentions from ladies and gentlemen holding respectable positions in society, must not only encourage these boys to pursue a different life, but strengthen their self-respect.

THE INSTITUTION OF MERCY.

New York.

The general object of this institution, which was founded and is managed by the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Mercy, is for the service of the poor, the sick and the ignorant. Besides the St-

Catharine's Convent, in which a large number of the Sisters reside, it comprises,

1. The "House of Mercy," which, with the convent, occupies Nos. 35, 37, 39, 41 and 43 East Houston street; and
2. The St. Joseph's Industrial School, located on Eighty-first street, between Fourth and Madison avenues.

We are kindly furnished with the following particulars of the objects, history and workings of the institution: "The Sisters of Mercy visit, relieve and instruct the poor, the sick and the ignorant in their poor homes and in the hospitals and prisons. The number of such visits made by them in New York city averages, annually, about eleven hundred. In many cases whole families are instructed and relieved at each visit. But the special object of the institution is the care and protection of young women of good character, and with these, their daily intercourse with the poor brings them into constant contact. The knowledge thus obtained of their need of moral, industrial and economical training, and of the ghastly evils to which destitute and unprotected young women are exposed, led to the establishment of a 'House of Mercy,' where such persons might be properly trained and cared for until employment could be procured for them.

"The House of Mercy was first established in New York city, in November, 1848, and forms one of the most important features of the Institution of Mercy, which was incorporated under the provisions of the general act. The building is of brick, in plain Romanesque style of architecture, and is capable of accommodating one hundred and twenty persons.

"When the institution was first organized, only a few young women could be accommodated, and these resided in a portion of what is now the 'Convent' or residence of the Sisters; but in 1848 the Sisters, encouraged by the aid and approbation of the late Archbishop Hughes, who first induced them to come to the city, undertook the erection of the present House of Mercy, adjoining the Convent. By order of the Archbishop, each pastor in the city collected from his congregation the sum of \$500 to aid in the erection of the building, and many donations and subscriptions were made by other friends of the institution; but no grant was applied for, either to the city or State, as the Sisters of Mercy did not then feel that they had established any claim on the sympathies of the public. In November, 1849, the house was ready for the admission of inmates, and afforded conveniences of the plainest kind for the performance of the work in which they were to be employed.

"Much of the time and care of the Sisters is taken up in the industrial training of the young women under their protection. Such as are strong and accustomed to manual labor are employed in the laun-

dry, and instructed in the best methods of performing the work done there, while those who are less robust or more refined — for sometimes persons delicately nurtured are sick and need the protection of the institution — are taught the different kinds of needlework, and the use of the sewing machine.

“A select intelligence office is conducted by the Sisters, by means of which suitable situations are procured for the girls, great care being taken to place them in respectable families. If their conduct has been satisfactory, and they return with recommendations from their employers, they are again supplied with situations by the institution. The Sisters make it a matter of duty to induce these young women to make good use of their money, and to secure for themselves a little independence by putting a portion of their earnings in the bank, from month to month; a plan which they have found productive of excellent results, both as regards society at large, and the comfort and character of the individuals themselves.”

At the time of visitation, October 9th, the house contained about thirty-three children. The officers of the institution consist of a President, Treasurer, Secretary, and a Board of Trustees, all of whom are elected from among the Sisters. The present presiding officer is Mother Catherine Seton.

St. Joseph's Industrial School.

“For a long time the Sisters had been convinced, that no work nor service rendered society was more productive of good results than the establishment of industrial institutes, for the protection and moral and educational training of female children. In addition to this experience, came that acquired in the military hospitals during the late war, where they saw the heart of many a brave soldier rent with anguish at the prospect of leaving his little ones without house or friend. While these disastrous years lasted, the Sisters exerted themselves in every possible way to comfort widows and save orphans, then every day created, and thus were prompted to attempt the establishment of this Industrial School. The financial struggles were arduous; it was made necessary to meet the first appropriation of \$25,000, by an equivalent sum collected among friends, in the short space of five months. This amount cleared the ground and put up part of the brick work of the building.

“The following year another appropriation of \$30,000 was made, but with the same provision that an equivalent sum should be raised. Nothing daunted, the Sisters again appealed to friends, with like success. The latter sum finished the brick work, roofed in the building and partially plastered the walls. Then came another standstill, when the Sisters enlisted the sympathies of friends, laid before them the

state of their finances and the necessity of completing the work already begun. In response to this appeal, they received the sum of \$50,000, without the conditions accompanying former donations. Previous to the receipt of the \$50,000, in order to save from injury the work so near completion, it was deemed prudent to execute a mortgage of \$30,000 on the building known as the Convent of Mercy, situated on the corner of Houston and Mulberry streets (then entirely free from debt) for this worthy object. The treasurer must now meet the interest on this sum from the industry of inmates or the charity of friends.

"The building was commenced in the spring of 1867. The grounds were leased to the Institution of Mercy, by the corporation of the city of New York, for ninety-nine years. The building is of brick, with cut stone trimmings, in modern Gothic architecture. It is four stories high with basement and attic. The school was opened September 24, 1869, twenty-four of the children from the Houston street institution being transferred there."

At the time of visitation, October 9, the school was found to be in charge of Sister Agnes Muldoon. Fifteen other sisters were associated with her in the work. Girls, we were informed, "are received from the age of three to fifteen, and kept till they are competent to earn their own support." "We teach them," says the Sister, "housekeeping, family sewing, knitting, machine and laundry work, and when they are ready to leave, we place them where we think they will be most likely to succeed, and watch over them afterward."

On the day of visitation the number of children in the institution was one hundred and fifty. The capacity of the building, however, could, it was thought, by slight alterations, be increased to make accommodations for about two hundred more. The want of means deters the sisters from enlarging their work, although there is further and continued demand upon their benevolence.

In one room were fourteen little girls doing very creditable crochet work. The sewing room contains thirty-six sewing machines. In this room we found twenty-nine girls making shirts for stores. The girls were singing in concert while at work. Three Sisters were among them, each attending to some one department of the industries. The Sister said: "We do not think any thing of making seventy or eighty dozen shirts in a week." As to the earnings of the girls, she said "A girl well trained can earn \$9 or \$10 a week. The last two that left us get \$10 a week."

The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads. A Sister sleeps in each room.

The institution contains a large school-room and an infirmary. The latter had only one inmate.

The dining-room is furnished with the usual appurtenances of such

an apartment, except that no table-cloths are used, either by the Sisters or the children. In regard to the comfort of the children, the Sister remarks: "We lay it on our consciences to make them as comfortable as we can."

The spacious brick building is heated by steam, and is well drained and ventilated. Ample arrangements are made for bathing, and each girl has her own towel and toilet box.

The health of the children appeared to be good. But one death had occurred during the past year, that of a little girl three years old.

The institution employs an engineer, and also three women to bake. The children assist in baking, and thus gain experience in that important branch of domestic economy.

The house contains a spacious chapel, in which the children sit on each side, facing the altar. The Sisters sit in the central aisle in stalls. These are arranged in two rows on each side of the aisle, facing each other. At the end of each row, and facing the altar, are larger stalls for the Sisters Superior. On the right of the central altar is a sepulchre of the Saviour, which is a memorial presented by a lady whose son died while studying for the priesthood.

The entire number of young girls received and cared for by the Institution of Mercy, during the twenty-seven years of its existence, is stated to be eleven thousand three hundred and eighty-seven. Besides these, large numbers have received out-door relief. The imprisoned, the sick and the dying have likewise shared the ministrations and mercies of these good Sisters, who have well earned the beautiful designation of their order.

The total expenditures of the Institution of Mercy during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$18,323.17. Of this \$3,500 was for interest on indebtedness. Its total indebtedness is \$54,135.18.

INSTITUTION FOR THE IMPROVED INSTRUCTION OF DEAF MUTES.

New York.

This institution is located at Nos. 1471, 1473 and 1475 Broadway at the intersection of Broadway and Seventh avenue. It was organized on the 28th of February, 1867, and incorporated on the 12th of April, 1870. It commenced its work at 134 West Twenty-seventh street. In 1868, its location was changed to 330 East Fourteenth street, and subsequently to its present quarters on Broadway. It occupies three private houses, in which slight alterations have been made, so as to adapt them to the purposes for which they are now used. The first

of these is used by the principal and officers of the house; the second by the girls, and the third by the boys. It appears from the financial statement that the sum of \$7,800 was paid for the rent of these houses in 1874.

The institution is controlled by a Board of Trustees, and is under the immediate charge of David Greenberger, principal, assisted by eight lady teachers. Its domestic affairs are intrusted to a matron and an assistant matron. One male and eight female domestics are engaged. A clerk is also employed.

Pupils of both sexes are received, from seven years old upward. Admissions are made during the month of September only. The price fixed for the maintenance and instruction of each pupil is \$300 per year. Clothing is not included.

On the day of visitation, October 7, 1875, there were ninety-two pupils — fifty boys and forty-two girls.

The system of instruction is the German, lip reading without the aid of artificial signs. The opportunity was not favorable for forming an opinion upon the merits of the system adopted, or the proficiency made by the pupils.

The class rooms were pleasant and well furnished, and the house generally possessed all the modern conveniences for health and comfort. Boys and girls are together at meals and in the class room. At other times a separation of the sexes is effected.

October 1, 1875, there were in the institution ninety-two pupils. Of this number three were orphans, twenty-one half-orphans, and sixty-eight had both parents living.

Thirty-four of the children were of native and fifty-eight of foreign parentage. They were principally from New York city. Nine of them were supported by friends, forty-eight by counties, thirty-four by the State and one by the institution.

The number of pupils received during the year was thirteen; the number discharged to parents or guardians, twelve. The total expenditures of the institution, during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$36,214.39, and of this \$8,000 was invested. Its total receipts were \$37,991.95, from the following sources:

| | |
|---|-------------|
| From the State | \$18,585 66 |
| From appropriations of Boards of Supervisors..... | 7,061 01 |
| From individuals for the support of inmates..... | 4,975 00 |
| By donations and voluntary contributions..... | 250 00 |
| From interest and dividends on investments..... | 700 00 |
| From all other sources..... | 6,420 28 |

The value of its personal estate, including bonds, stocks and other investments, is set down at \$18,000.

LEAKE AND WATTS' ORPHAN HOUSE.

New York.

The property of the asylum consisted, originally, of twenty acres of land eligibly situated at Bloomingdale, now One Hundred and Tenth street. The corner-stone of the Orphan House was laid on the 28th of April, 1838, and it was completed in November, 1843. The original cost of the land and building, it is stated, was \$80,000; but so valuable has the property become, that, within a few years, four acres were sold for the sum of \$130,000. The edifice consists of a large central building with two wings. The front entrance is approached by a broad flight of granite steps. The porticos, in front and rear, are supported by six stately Grecian columns. The building is quite imposing in its general aspect. The basement is of granite, with three upper stories of brick. The eastern wing is allotted to the boys and the western to the girls. A wide veranda, protected by a massive balustrade, is attached to each story. Outside stairways, or fire-escapes, afford means of egress in case of fire. In the rear, and connected with the main building by a covered passage-way, is a one-story building, in which are the kitchen and the dining room. This is a recent addition.

The affairs of this corporation are controlled by a Board of Seven Trustees, consisting of "the Mayor, the Recorder, the Rector of Trinity Church, the Wards of the said church, the oldest minister of the Dutch Church, and the oldest minister of the Presbyterian Church." The Orphan House is under the immediate charge of a superintendent, Mr. William H. Guest, who is assisted by his wife as matron.

At the date of visitation, October 23, there were one hundred and fifty children in the house, twenty-nine of native and one hundred and twenty-one of foreign parentage. From Mrs. Guest, in the absence of the Superintendent, we obtained the following information: "Boys and girls, without distinction of country or religion, are received if legitimate and full orphans. We have a capacity for accommodating three hundred. Children are not received under three nor over twelve years of age. We place them out at fourteen. If they have friends able to take care of them, they are then given over to their charge. If not, they are bound out. The boys are bound out till the age of twenty-one; after which time, according to agreement, each boy is entitled to \$100, a suit of clothes and a Bible, from his employer. During his time of service it is stipulated that he shall spend a given time at school. The girls are bound out till the age of eighteen, when they are to receive \$25, a Bible and a new suit of clothes. We have a regular form of indenture. The boys we find do

best on farms. They are there more like members of the family. We very seldom get boys to learn trades. We send many of the children to Long Island. As a general thing they do very well. We do not approve of making them servants."

In the boys' dormitory, formerly the chapel, is a tablet bearing the following inscription:

"John and George Leake and John Watts, founders of this institution for the reception, education and maintenance of helpless orphan children. The liberal endowment and practical benefit of this charity furnish their elegy."

The bedsteads are three feet eight inches wide, each intended to accommodate two children. The beds are of straw, and are very thick. The girls' dormitory is similarly furnished. The dining room is commodious. The boys and girls eat together. The children sit on stools with backs, the seats of which rest upon iron pedestals and turn upon pivots. The dietary is substantially as follows: For breakfast, weak coffee with milk and bread. For dinner, meat four days in the week; coffee and bread one day, rice and molasses another; bread, butter and coffee on Sunday. For supper, bread and milk, the latter being warm. No cooking is done on Sunday. The floors of this and other rooms were very white, being frequently scoured with soap and sand. The infirmary is in the attic, and occupies two rooms with all needed conveniences. The building throughout is heated by steam, lighted with kerosene, and well supplied with water, which is forced to every floor.

One death had occurred during the past year, but the health of the inmates was said to be generally good. They were all dressed alike, and well clad. In winter, flannel is worn by both sexes, also woolen stockings, while for the mild spring and summer weather thick cotton is substituted. The boys have their hair cut short. The secular and religious education of the inmates is carefully guarded. A school is maintained on the premises, in which five teachers are employed. Daily morning and evening prayers are conducted. The children say grace at meals, and attend four religious services on Sunday. The institution possesses a library of seven hundred volumes, selected especially for children.

The institution has a large garden devoted to the raising of vegetables. An extensive hennery is also kept. The play-grounds are very large, and contain a pavilion.

The children in the school room presented a cleanly and bright appearance. The boys and girls were in separate rooms. In the girls' room was a piano, also a cabinet of minerals. Illuminated texts decorated the walls.

A marked feature of this institution is the pains taken to provide

the children with comfortable clothing, bedding, etc., adapted to the various seasons. The house is very cleanly kept, and the children are believed to be under excellent influences.

This long established and worthy charity has given shelter to a large number of orphan children, thereby entirely relieving the public of the burden of their support. At the date of October 1st, 1875, the number of inmates was one hundred and fifty, all of whom were being supported wholly by the Asylum. While much remains to be done in the field in which this institution is situated, it has, nevertheless, already accomplished a great work, and its founders will ever be held in grateful remembrance for their philanthropy and munificence.

The number of children received in the institution, during the year ending November 1, 1875, was thirty-six, and the number discharged twenty-three; of the latter, six were indentured, fourteen surrendered to guardians or relatives, two eloped and one died. Its total income from investments, for the year ending December 31, 1875, was \$30,914.20. This corporation is possessed of the following property:

Real estate, valued at \$300,000. This is productive of no income, and is subject to taxation. The value of its personal estate, including bonds, mortgages and stocks at par, and balance of cash on hand is \$443,278.52. Its only indebtedness is \$22,700, being for unpaid taxes, etc. It receives nothing from the State or city, excepting an appropriation toward the salaries of teachers which, during the year, was \$1,272.18.

In view of the large personal estate of this asylum, from which an income is derivable, as also of the fact that its accommodations are adequate for double the number of children inmates, the question suggests itself whether a greater number of orphan children could not be permitted to partake of the solid comforts and share the elevating influences of the asylum. The opportunity of aiding this class, in New York city, is very great, and it is thought that if those who are sharing the benefits of this asylum were placed in good families as soon as properly prepared to become members thereof, without waiting till they have attained a fixed age, and their places occupied by those greatly needing the benefactions of this noble charity, its sphere of usefulness might be still more enlarged.

THE NEW YORK CATHOLIC PROTECTORY.

Office, 33 Warren street,

New York.

The object of this society is "to provide for the education and support of such idle, truant, vicious, or homeless children of both sexes,

from seven to fourteen years, as may be properly surrendered to its protection, or committed to its custody by the order of any magistrate of New York, or by the Commissioners of Public Charities and Corrections." In addition to the class of children sent to the Protectory under commitment, the officers are allowed to take children who may be intrusted to them by their parents.

The origin of the society is thus stated: "The Roman Catholic citizens of New York had long felt the need of an institution where poor and vicious children, having Roman Catholic parents, might be cared for and educated in accordance with their own faith. The organizations then existing were not, on religious grounds, considered as proper asylums for this class. It was, therefore, decided, in 1862, that an appeal should be made to the Legislature for a special act authorizing the establishment of a society of benevolent gentlemen who should work without pay or emolument, to whom would be granted the power to provide for and control such of the poor children of the Roman Catholic faith as were heretofore committed to other institutions. In accordance with this purpose a charter was obtained April 14th, 1863, incorporating the 'Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catholic children in the city of New York.' This name was, by act of the Legislature, in 1871, changed to its present title. The first meeting of the society at which a board of managers was elected was held May 1, 1863.

"The asylums for the care and custody of the children were first located in two comparatively small buildings in Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh streets, and for three years the society struggled against difficulties of the most trying character; inadequate accommodations, want of pecuniary means (during nearly one whole year the daily wants being supplied by cash advances from some of the managers), and malignant diseases, all seeming at one period to combine against and seriously threaten the very existence of this institution.

"The ever confiding faith of its devoted first president, Dr. L. Silliman Ives, in the protection of Divine Providence over such a good work, aided by the untiring zeal of the Christian Brothers and the Sisters of Charity, who had been selected to take charge of the educational and disciplinary branches of the asylum, as well as the generous assistance of the citizens of New York, overcame gradually all impediments. The managers hired, soon after, larger premises on Eighty-sixth street, near the East river, for the girls, and also two houses in the same street, near Fifth avenue, for the boys. The working of the institution was continued on these premises until the spring of 1867, when a farm was purchased in Westchester county for the permanent location of the institution, and in addition to the buildings already on the grounds, a large brick building was erected, as well as a commodi-

ous frame one, affording, in the aggregate, excellent accommodations for the separate and yet compact management of both male and female departments. The State Legislature showed its appreciation of the efforts made, by granting it fixed pecuniary aid, and thus placed it on a nearer basis of equality with similar establishments of the city of New York. The generous and sympathetic response of the citizens of New York, as shown by the successful result of the great fair in 1867, to raise a sum of money to be specially devoted to the making of better provisions for the poor girls in charge of the society, was another powerful encouragement. This confidence was an additional incentive to more energetic efforts, if possible, on the part of the managers. It enabled them to prosecute their undertaking on a scale commensurate with the unfortunately growing requirements of this crowded metropolis."

The city office and receiving house of the Protectory is at 33 Warren street, corner of Church, where a large stock of shoes and other work made in the institution is offered for sale. A van plies daily between the office and the Protectory, conveying inmates and material back and forth. The Protectory is located in the town of Westchester, in Westchester county, eleven miles from the City Hall in New York. Its post-office is Westchester. The institution may be reached by a short ride upon the Harlem Railroad, leaving the train at Tremont station. A ride of about two miles from the depot brings one to the extensive group of large buildings which comprise the Protectory establishment. Prominent among these, and first arresting the attention, is the boys' department, an imposing brick structure, four stories high, with basement and mansard roof, having a central tower containing a fine tower clock. The architectural design of the tower, as well as of the entire building, is quite elaborate, the whole presenting a stately appearance. The edifice is situated in the midst of extensive grounds, which are being improved. The site is an eligible one, the land in front gently sloping away from the main building. The soil is desirable for agricultural purposes, and the location is healthful.

A visitation with Commissioner Hoguet was made to this institution October 15, on which occasion the boys' department was found to be under the care of Brother Teliow, assisted by thirty of the Roman Catholic Order of Christian Brothers, and the girls' department under the charge of Sister Helena, with twenty-two other Sisters of Charity of Mt. St. Vincent associated with her in the work.

Although it will be difficult to convey to the reader, in the short space allotted to it in this report, an adequate idea of the system and arrangement of this immense establishment, yet a brief sketch of its noteworthy features which came under our observation will be at-

tempted. The various parts of the institution were visited in the following order, beginning with the

Boys' department.—There were here at the date of visitation about thirteen hundred and forty boys. In the large printing room there were between seventy and eighty, under the supervision of a foreman, himself once an inmate, but now a superior workman. In this room are three steam-power presses. Stereotyping is carried on to an extent enabling the establishment to make all the castings used in its printing. About fifty-five boys were setting type, whose ages averaged about fourteen, and twenty little fellows were folding paper, none of whom were older than eleven years. There were also ten, between fourteen and eighteen years of age, working at the presses.

In the tailoring department were about thirty boys sitting cross-legged on a platform, like tailors, and very busy at work; others were operating sewing machines, in all about sixty boys. The boys make every thing they wear, and in addition do a great deal of work for employers.

In the room appropriated to the boys' clothing are cases containing fourteen hundred small compartments, one of which is allotted to each boy. These are numbered, and the clothes that are in them are also numbered to correspond. The garments are of a warm woolen material, and of various colors. The President remarked: "I will not permit the boys to wear uniform clothes. I never buy two pieces of cloth alike."

In the shoemaking department there were nearly four hundred boys, ranging in ages from eleven to seventeen years. There are two shops in this department, one for making nailed and the other for making sewed shoes. The work is done largely by machinery. The boys wrought with alacrity, and seemed cheerful and attentive to their duties. The Brother says: "They have stated hours for labor and for education, and a given space of time for recreation. They have certain tasks to do, and when these are done they can go and play."

It is gratifying to state that the system of letting out the services of the boys to contractors at a fixed price per day is not in practice here. On this point the President of the Protectory remarks: "The boys do not work on contracts. We make a shoe and sell it for as much as we can. We are training boys to be shoemakers. We are working this institution for the benefit of the State. We are taking the raw material and trying to make out of it self-sustaining men. If in the process we can save a few dollars so much the better, but that is not our primary aim. We have conducted this department for years without making a shilling. Last year we made money; this year we lose."

About two hundred boys were employed in the cane-seating department, their ages varying from nine to eleven years. The work here

seemed to be well done, and the boys' movements were brisk and orderly.

In a room in the basement were found about four hundred boys engaged, some in blocking out soles, and all working with a will.

The laundry contains four steam washing machines. The washing for the institution is all done by the boys, under the supervision of one of the Brothers and an assistant.

In the cabinet making department the boys were engaged in making bureaus, chests of drawers, wash-stands, etc. Many creditable specimens of their handiwork were there for inspection. Attached to the establishment is a blacksmith's shop, a wheelwright's shop, a horse-shoeing and a wagon-making department, and a machine shop, in which the machinery is repaired. The iron bedsteads used in the establishment are also made here. Bedsteads are likewise made to supply outside orders.

In the box-making department the boxes for packing shoes are made. All the carpentry about the institution, the Brother says, is done by the boys, and two buildings have been put up by them. In addition to the trades taught in all the departments named, the boys are instructed in gardening and farming. About seventy-eight were engaged in this kind of work.

A good working Fire Company has been organized among the boys, which is equipped with engine and hose cart. The Company does good service, not only in the institution, but in the neighborhood, having laid residents in the vicinity under obligations to them in several instances by putting out their fires, and thus saving their houses.

There is also a fine Cornet Band, composed of the boys who have a talent for music. This was organized by one of the Brothers. They wear a blue uniform. This band, the Brother informed us, attend the Jerome Park races regularly, and get thirty dollars a day for their services.

One of the large yards containing swings, etc., for the boys' recreation, was at the time of our visit filled with juveniles, who were here allowed to pursue their sports, and to indulge their boisterous propensities, to their hearts' content. The Brother said: "We have three hundred boys unemployed, simply because there is no money to put up workshops for them."

The steam engine in use on the premises is from forty to fifty horse power. The steam from several large steam boilers heats the building, and affords steam for cooking. A spring supplies the house with water, which is gathered in a reservoir, and carried through the building in pipes.

Thirty-five cows are kept on the place. All their milk is used in the institution, but even this, we were informed, is insufficient for the

inmates. All the vegetables used are raised in the extensive gardens of the Protectory, except a full supply of potatoes. The lands of the institution cover one hundred and forty-seven acres. One hundred and thirty-five acres are under cultivation, twenty acres being laid out in garden.

The domestic part of the house is on the same large plan as the industrial. The kitchen, with its huge caldrons and polished boilers for coffee and tea, and with its other appurtenances, is on a scale commensurate with the requirements for feeding fifteen hundred mouths at a single meal, and is suggestive of the hospitality of baronial times.

The refectory is capable of accommodating eleven hundred boys at a sitting. In addition to these, a considerable number of the foremen sit here on a dais at one end of the room, and eat with them. A smaller refectory for the little boys could seat about three hundred. A Brother sat at one end, and the clerks and foremen of departments at the other. The boys were well supplied with a meat stew, bread, turnips, potatoes and apples. Before eating, the form of grace usual in Roman Catholic Asylums was repeated, and after the meal thanks were in like manner returned.

Beeves are butchered on the place to supply meat for the table. A very large and well-constructed slaughter-house, furnished with all the necessary conveniences for butchering the animals required for the sustenance of the children, has been erected during the year.

The dietary is as follows:

For ordinary days: Breakfast—Coffee, bread, butter and meat.

Dinner—Soup, meat, vegetables, bread and fruit in its season.

Supper—Bread, butter, tea and dessert.

For Fridays: Breakfast—Coffee, bread, butter and cakes.

Dinner—Soup, fish, potatoes, bread and coffee.

Supper—Bread, butter, tea and biscuits.

In the Junior Department meat is served but once a day; and as a substitute gruel of Indian or oaten meal, rice, etc., is given in the morning.

The dormitories are very large, containing about three hundred and fifty beds each, and are all similarly furnished. They are lighted on four sides. The windows are large and mullioned. In an alcove off each room, and separated from it by curtains, are beds for three of the Brothers. The boys' bedsteads are of iron, single, two feet four inches wide, having head and foot rails. Straw beds are used, the straw being changed every three months; the pillows are some of husks, some of sponge and some of hair. The beds were square and regularly made; they were very thick, the depth of straw in the ticks being fully fourteen inches. The Brother remarked on this point: "It pays us to buy straw to make decent beds for the boys. As soon as it becomes broken

and inelastic we send it off and use it in the stables." Each bed had two sheets, two blankets and a coverlet. The covering is increased as the weather becomes colder. The rooms are lighted by gas. A spacious gas-house, with all its necessary dependencies, retorts, iron receivers, tank, store-house for coal, and full complement of service pipes for all buildings of the institution, has been constructed.

Night closets adjoin each dormitory.

The chapel is of old Saxon-Gothic architecture, and has a capacity for seating fifteen hundred. It contains a large central altar, a confessional at each end, a gallery and a piano. The piano when used is accompanied by music upon stringed instruments.

The infirmary is on the same floor as the chapel. There was here one inmate, suffering from consumption; another from pneumonia; and a third from a swollen foot. This department is in charge of a Brother, and contains twenty beds. In connection with it is an apothecary shop. A large gas jet is kept burning in a flue in the center of the infirmary, for the purpose of ventilation.

The halls of the Protectory are ten feet wide, and extend through the whole length of the building. In addition to the central staircase are four other flights of stairs, rendering easy egress from the building in case of fire. Each floor has a water-pipe and a number of leather buckets ready for use in case of fire.

The library contains about one thousand volumes, embracing a great variety of reading matter, including a collection of the Rev. Jeremiah Kinsella, and another of the Rev. Dr. L. Silliman Ives. The reading room is furnished with tables and comfortable chairs, and contains three large library cases with fifteen hundred volumes. Conveniently situated is a separate building, forming a department where the large boys amuse themselves with dominoes and other innocent games.

The lavatory arrangements are very complete. The boys wash in running water. Each has his own towel.

The school is divided into four class-rooms, each containing about sixty boys. The primary classes are given practice in calisthenics. One of these classes presented a lively sight, as we were passing through the room, the little boys singing, meanwhile, a simple song in which we distinguished the words:

"Hold your right hand up!
Hold your left hand up!
See the blacksmith strike," etc.

The programme of studies in the male department comprises spelling, reading, writing, grammar, history and arithmetic, which are taught in every class, so that boys of every age and condition of advancement receive continued instruction in these branches during their whole residence at the Protectory. Such boys as are sufficiently

advanced in these fundamental studies, are also instructed in composition, practical and intellectual arithmetic, algebra, book-keeping, geometry, and mensuration.

There is also attached to the senior division a class in phonography, and another in music. The smaller boys have seven hours of study and class exercises every week-day. The larger boys have two hours instruction in the forenoon, and nearly three hours in the evening, the middle of each day being spent in the various industrial departments.

An interesting feature of the institution is what is termed the "bank-book system." The boys are encouraged to save their money. Some, we were told, have already \$400 or \$500 to their credit, and others again have scarcely any thing. The more advanced boys are paid a percentage out of their earnings. It is put to their credit, and from this fund they purchase their own clothes. In this way independence and self-reliance are being inculcated, and the boys are learning how to adapt means to ends and laying the foundation for habits which come into play in the honorable acquisition of property.

Discipline is maintained by a mild form of punishment, such as detention from play, that of a corporal character being seldom resorted to. The Brother said: "The cases that we cannot manage are very few. I do not think we have many really incorrigibly bad boys in the house, and yet ninety-five per cent are regularly committed to us. Some have stolen, others have tried to fire buildings, have been guilty of vagrancy, have gone into bad places, or done something else to bring them here. During the preceding year we have had but three cases that we had to place elsewhere, by recommitment of magistrate."

In reference to the principles of reform by which his associates and himself are guided, Brother Teliow says: "Money will never sustain reformatory enterprises. It may help to prepare the remedy for a social evil, but can never apply it. True reformation must be found in plans conceived and directed by the heart as well as the brain. We have worked upon the principle, that thorough reform is consequent only upon a complete change of habits and associations. And we have been most scrupulous in causing youths, during their term of pupilage, to lose sight entirely of their past errors and the odium incident to them, and, if possible, to forget their present dependence. They must be impressed with the idea that they are not eating the eleemosynary bread of the workhouse, as it always tends to paralyze their manly aspirations.

"Our religious view is positive. The aim of our instruction and discipline is to send forth our children with minds freed from the distraction of commingled doctrines and fortified against temptation by a well-defined faith, an abiding hope, a never-failing charity. My assistants are animated solely by religious motives. We work in har-

mony for the same end and with the same principle prompting and directing us."

Girls' Department.—The spacious and tasteful edifice, formerly occupied by the girls, was burned down and its contents destroyed, July 25, 1872, causing much inconvenience to the institution. This building had been erected at a cost of about \$165,000, mainly from the proceeds of a single fair. In the interval, between its destruction and the partial completion of the new building, temporary structures on the grounds were improvised. These were still in partial use on the day of visitation.

A new engine and boiler house is in progress of construction for the female department, and the managers are making arrangements for the introduction of steam power into a part of the temporary wooden buildings, which are being converted into a large workshop, in which the business of silk-winding will be conducted, under a contract recently entered into by the managers with well-known silk manufacturers.

A commodious edifice, combining modern improvements, is now being built, the west wing of which is occupied by the girls. The unfinished part of the building is intended for dormitories, chapel, kitchen, store-rooms and dining rooms. The dormitory apartments are planned with high ceilings, supported by iron columns. Flues are in the walls for ventilation, and transom head-lights over the doors. A suitable apartment for invalids or convalescents, so especially needed in the event of an epidemic, or the outbreak of a contagious disease, is one of the features of the new structure.

The chapel is designed to seat one thousand persons. Its tinted walls, varnished wood-work, and stained glass windows, render the apartment quite attractive. The altar is lighted from above with gothic windows on each side. The marble altar, costing \$2,000, was purchased out of a legacy left by a benevolent gentleman.

A wing for this main building, corresponding with the west wing already completed and occupied, is in contemplation. The number of girls on the day of visitation was six hundred and one, their ages ranging between seven and sixteen years. They were dressed neatly and differently, the Sisters preferring variety in color and material as a matter of taste. The girls' hair was mostly tied up with ribbons, and their faces looked clean and bright.

Care is taken in the arrangements for ablutions. Each inmate has her own towel. This is numbered with her own number. Every girl in the house, Sister Helena informed us, has a number, and this number is on her clothes, her books, and every thing allotted to her, and each is held responsible for her own. In this way an opportunity is

more readily afforded for observing and rewarding those who show the most neatness in the care of what belongs to them.

The school comprises ten classes of about fifty each in the primary departments, and sixty or seventy in the classes of the older pupils. The rooms are furnished with patent desks and all modern appliances. The personal cleanliness of the inmates was marked. The Sister says "the mornings and evenings are devoted to the school, and the afternoons to work. Young children of either sex are not expected to work. Their day is divided between the school and the play-ground. Special pains is taken to give young girls ample out-door recreation. About three hundred and seven girls, comprising all of the junior classes, are kept in school five hours per day. Those girls who are engaged in the industrial departments during part of the day, are kept in school two hours in the morning, and those employed in house labor are kept in school two and one-half hours in the afternoon."

In one of the classes we found about sixty-eight girls engaged in finishing off shirts. In the "operating room" there were sixty-two machines, all worked by girls, who are paid according to their capacity. The following figures will better explain the extent of the industrial features of this department: About ninety-six girls are engaged at shoe-fitting, about one hundred and seventy-six in plain sewing, and about twenty-five in house-work.

The average annual cost for the maintenance of each girl is stated to be \$115.31. Regarding the value of the labor, it is said that "\$5,000 in cash has been paid into the treasury in 1875, from the proceeds of their labor in 1874; and the inventories of the female industrial department just made show profits of nearly \$14,000 for the year just closed." It is further asserted that "a continuance of results such as these, together with a total cessation of building, would, in the course of a few years, materially decrease the share of the present floating debt justly chargeable to the female division of the Protectory."

The room intended for school purposes is now used as a dormitory. It is furnished with single iron bedsteads, two feet three inches wide. The beds are of straw and very thick.

The house was found to be very clean and tidily kept and the order prevalent throughout in all the housekeeping as well as industrial departments, it would seem, must have a beneficial effect upon the children, many of whom, before coming here, were brought up in the utmost neglect, and left to habits of heedlessness. The demeanor of the Sisters appeared to be that of earnest women, engaged in a work undertaken as a duty, investing them with a dignity that seemed to inspire respect among the children.

The whole number of children, both boys and girls, in the Protec-

tory at the date of October 1, 1875, was 1,944. Of these, 538 were orphans, 1,021 half-orphans, and 365 had both parents living. There were of native parentage, 147, and of foreign parentage, 1,797. Of the entire number, fifty-three were partially supported by parents or friends. The number of children transferred from Randall's Island Nursery and the county poor-house of Westchester at the time the system of rearing children in these institutions was broken up, was 108. The whole number of children received during the year was 941; the number discharged, 839. Of the latter, 84 were indentured, 643 returned to parents or guardians, 79 left without permission, 19 were transferred to other institutions, and 14 died.

A new feature relating to the disposition of the children in the Protectory is thus outlined by its Rector: "We hope soon to have agencies established throughout the State, by means of which the institution can be relieved, its objects extended, and the State in general benefited. Through these agencies, it is the intention to locate boys in self-sustaining positions with farmers and mechanics, thus making room for others in the Protectory, and benefiting the community by furnishing well-tutored and reliable youths to mechanical, agricultural and general commercial pursuits."

The total expenditures of the society during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$288,991.31. Of this, \$127,756.67 was for buildings and improvements. The total indebtedness is \$317,224.48. The value of its personal estate, including bonds, stocks and other investments, is \$176,050.83.

A per capita allowance of \$110 has been received from the City Treasurer for the last eight years. This is stated to be at least \$20 per child less than the cost of maintenance.

"The additions made to the permanent improvements of the Protectory during the year just closed have been very large, and the greater part of their cost constitutes the increased indebtedness of the institution, which is now \$87,176.45 more than it was on October 1st, 1874.

* * * * *

"The cost of annual expenses has been increased this year by the depreciation of values in some of the industrial departments, viz.:

"The shoe manufactory, instead of showing, as in former years, a profit, shows a loss of nearly \$8,000, and the printing shop shows a decline of over \$2,000 in its account for the year ending September 30, 1875."

During the year 1875 the Protectory met with a great loss in the death of its distinguished President, Dr. Henry James Anderson. The extent of this bereavement, and the estimation in which he was held by those associated with him in the work, may be in some measure

comprehended by quoting the language of his successor, the Hon. Henry L. Hoguet, which is as follows:

"During twelve consecutive years, was the Protectory the object of Dr. Anderson's every-day laborious attention and solicitude. This ripe scholar, this distinguished mathematician, this learned linguist, this ex-professor of the first seat of learning in the State, did not consider it beneath his capacity to perform the dull routine work incident to the business requirements of the Protectory.

"He attended daily at the office, not only supervising the administration of its affairs, but with a patience and self-abnegation never to be forgotten, he entered into the minutest details of its workings, discharging himself a large part of the clerical duties, writing most of its correspondence, attending personally to litigious cases in court, in which his legal acquirements and high moral reputation were of great value to the Protectory.

"Oftentimes has this great, good man himself conveyed the wretched-looking objects of his solicitude from the courts to the Institution, happy in having rescued these waifs from the misery, sin or crime to which they had till then been exposed. All of these services were rendered with a quiet, patient, unobtrusive, but persistent tenacity of purpose, the source of which must have been a heart brimful of Christian benevolence."

The Protectory is under the direction of an energetic Board of Managers, and the Christian Brothers and the Sisters of Charity are zealous in their good work.

During the first year of the existence of the Society for the Protection of Destitute Roman Catholic Children, the institution provided for three hundred and twenty-three children; and during the succeeding six years, for three thousand three hundred and fifty-three. The whole number that have received its benefits up to the present time, is nine thousand seven hundred and twelve.

The reformatory work of this Society is of such magnitude, and its beneficent results are so apparent and generally recognized, that special allusion to them seems superfluous. As an Asylum, at once reforming and elevating for thousands of poor Roman Catholic children, who through lack of proper home training and poverty are in the direct path leading to misery for themselves and hurtfulness to others, this institution must be regarded as an indispensable aid and safeguard to society. So multitudinous are the benefits growing out of its work, that those engaged in it are certainly deserving that heartfelt commendation due to all those who are earnestly laboring to elevate unfortunate children.

NEW YORK INFANT ASYLUM.

New York.

The New York Infant Asylum was founded in accordance with the provisions of a charter granted by the Legislature in 1865, and at that time it was recognized as one of the institutions by which Christian efforts were being made to prevent infanticiding, suiciding and moral abandonment among homeless and despairing young women, and to repress at the same time certain of the most inevitable causes of pauperism and wretchedness. We have been kindly furnished with the following information by those familiar with its history and deeply interested in its workings:

"At first, that is in 1865-66, the founders believed that the work would be chiefly that of a 'foundling asylum.' It was organized as a foundling house, receiving only abandoned infants. A large mansion in the suburbs was soon filled with foundlings, but the experiment proved that its plan and policy had been unwisely chosen. It was acknowledged that less than twenty per cent of the infants would survive to their first birthday anniversary.

"It was clearly seen that inducements and ample means would need to be supplied to persuade mothers to accept the duty to nourish and care for their infants, or the endeavor to save such infants to live and be reasonably worth rearing must be abandoned. The latter alternative was accepted.

"In 1871 public sentiment and the prolonged study of the subject induced the managers to re-organize, and they adopted a new policy, and sought out adequate methods to attain the greatest benefits which a reception house and refuge for homeless infants could afford. The re-organization of the work was effected by agencies which Christian ladies and physicians devised.

"The institution is under non-sectarian control, but it is governed by a Board of Lady Managers, representing all the Protestant denominations of the city, and by a like constituted Board of gentlemen, acting as Trustees."

It is stated that the mothers of the children whom this asylum seeks to save, represent every grade of society and every degree of intelligence, and that in most cases the mothers are the victims of seduction under the promise of marriage; that these young mothers possess the affection that would lead them to care for their babes, if they could do so and preserve their respectability. On this point the physicians assert:

"It is an altogether mistaken opinion that the mothers of the illegitimate have little natural affection for their offspring; on the con-

trary, they part with their children with the most marked evidence of intense sorrow. Whenever placed under such circumstances that they can nurse their children, they refuse to part with them, and will follow them into almost any institution which affords shelter and protection. The attendants upon institutions which have a reception basket, where the mother may deposit her child, unknown, but not unseen, relate daily instances of the most intense grief manifested by the mother as she is about to turn away forever from her babe; in many instances she returns repeatedly and fondles it before finally leaving. In general these foundlings have upon their person some token by which they may hereafter be recognized. Such facts prove that these mothers are at this period extremely susceptible, and may be rescued from an impending life of shame if placed with their children under the home-like discipline of a well-ordered charity. Thus not only would the life of the child be saved, but the mother would also be saved. They prove also that the crime of abandonment and infanticide is perpetrated only under the most aggravated state of mental and moral disturbance.

"The evils avoided by the New York Infant Asylum are these :

"First. All temptations and errors by which a mother would resolve upon the abandonment of her infant, because of the provisions of the asylum.

"Second. All inducements to the mother to seek any vocation which should result in the sin of forsaking her infant when newly born, either by offering herself in the market of wet-nursing, or seeking equivocal or sinful modes of life, because of shame or despair.

"Third. The asylumizing of children after they become mature enough to be adopted as foster children for family culture and a home life.

"Gradually the plans of the institution have taken shape so as to secure the objects here mentioned. These objects have been obtained as follows:

"Distribution and classification, by obtaining for use a place of reception which has a spacious Maternity House.

"Two Nursery Houses in salubrious, rural neighborhoods, one in Flushing comprising eight acres of open grounds, and one on Tenth avenue and Sixty-first street, in the city, comprising nearly ten city lots on the heights near the Central Park.

"Secondly. By securing a basis of material aid precisely equivalent to the certified minimum or average expenditure of the City Alms Department for pauper infants, and cases in Infants' Hospital Maternity Wards, week by week, or day by day, for the last preceding year. The Commissioners of Public Charities annually certify this

rate of per diem cost of their pauper nurslings, and the city gives a corresponding amount of aid to infants in this asylum.

"The institution is now so organized that its methods of mercy and care reach out the hand of succor to the homeless mother and infant, and to the friendless and cruelly forsaken young woman on the eve of her greatest want, when woe and terror make such silent acts of mercy the plainest duty of Christian charity. These timely and prudent acts of charity produce an undying impression upon every beneficiary, and they are designed alike to save the soul from despair and the recipients from the touch and doom of pauperism. As respects the infants themselves, no other method of care could save them from the fatal results of neglect and disease, and of ultimate pauperism or the worse alternative of vicious courses of life.

"The terrible desperation and bewildering alarm and dread which may be about to tempt the young mother to destroy herself, or in some way destroy her newly-born babe, or worse, to plunge into the moral oblivion by the horrid alternative of sin, are superseded and wholly prevented. It is a silent, natural and certain way of saving lives that need not be lost, and saving from woes worse than death or pauperism.

"Silently, prudently and with most careful instruction each mother, who is reached by the methods of this institution, is taught her duties and helped onward to her best destiny, while every infant, which cannot be well and most wisely provided for by mother and kinsfolks, is adopted into a family of real foster-parents. Each beneficiary infant or mother is as gently as possible brought into the sanctuary of a fixed and good home, to be surrounded and filled by natural affections and ennobling hopes.

The statistics of the New York Infant Asylum from the date of its new organization on the commencement of its present existence, are concisely summarized as follows:

| | |
|--|-----|
| The total number of infants left by unknown persons, <i>i. e.</i> , actual foundlings | 100 |
| Total number of infants born in the asylum, maternity houses, 24 and 26 Clinton place, was | 309 |
| Total number of mothers admitted to the asylum with living infants | 400 |
| Total number of infants, not foundlings, admitted without mothers, | 133 |
| <hr/> | |
| Grand total of infants (admitted to and born in asylum) from December, 1871, to November 30, 1875, was | 942 |
| <hr/> | |
| Whole number of deaths in the above total | 178 |
| <hr/> | |

Percentage of deaths to the total number of infants in four years, 18 per cent. (The per cent of deaths in foundling houses generally, the world

over, in five years periods of their history is from 85 to 94 per cent of total number of infants admitted.)

Total number of infants (weaned children) adopted out by the adoption committee was forty-five.

The annual report for 1875 shows that the inmates of the asylum in its three branches, on the 30th of November, 1875, were distributed and classified as follows:

In the maternity houses, at Nos. 24 and 26 Clinton place, Eighth street, in the city of New York —

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Mothers and women in waiting | 41 |
| Infants | 32 |
| Total..... | <u>73</u> |

In the Nursery Home on Tenth avenue, Sixty-first street —

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Women | 52 |
| Infants | 74 |
| Total..... | <u>126</u> |

In the Flushing Home —

| | |
|---------------|-----------|
| Women | 27 |
| Infants | 56 |
| Total | <u>83</u> |

Total number of salaried employés in the three branches of the asylum, November 30, 1875, was six.

Though only four years in progress, the plan of the asylum in regard to the admission, the distribution, the adopting and otherwise placing in separate and permanent homes, all the infants it cares for, works well. Thus far not a complaint or ascertained wrong has occurred in the forty-five cases of adopted infants, though the process of adoption was inaugurated three years ago.

“ Besides these adopted infants whose escape from dishonor, want and pauperism seemed to depend on such fortunate adoption into families of true foster-parents, a still greater number of the infants have been taken by mothers and friends who have shown their competence and fitness to assume such permanent care and education of them. This class of cases is an evidence of the moral worthiness of a large number of the young mothers.

“ The presence of this unpretending refuge in this great city in which thirty-five thousand infants are born each year, with destinies of happiness and virtue, or with fearful possibilities or certainties of misery and vicious and shameful ways of life awaiting each individual

thus added to the population, may seem only as a drop and a ripple in the great flood of human life. Nevertheless this is a useful part in the total scheme of beneficent efforts to which the thoughts and labors of the benevolent are contributing."

The total number of persons received during the last year was four hundred and fourteen; the total number discharged was three hundred and fifty-four. Of the latter, twelve were placed out by adoption, one hundred and two returned to parents or guardians, one hundred and ninety-seven were otherwise discharged, and forty-three died.

The total expenditures of the Society during its fiscal year amounted to \$56,238.47; of this \$8,109.01 was expended for buildings and improvements, and \$25,347.50 paid upon indebtedness on real estate. The total indebtedness of the institution amounts to \$16,000, and the value of its personal estate is estimated at about \$40,000, including its cash balance.

A large number of earnest workers are engaged in this field. Included in its medical staff are names distinguished alike for their philanthropy and scientific knowledge; while among its lady managers are persons of widely-known benevolence.

NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE BLIND.

New York.

"The first organized instruction for the blind in this country was begun under the auspices of this institution, March 15, 1832. Since that time, however, the subject has grown in significance, until there are now no less than thirty-two American institutions devoted to this work."

The location of this educational institution is on Ninth avenue, between Thirty-third and Thirty-fourth streets, in the city of New York. It was incorporated by an act of the Legislature, passed April 1, 1831. Its property is vested in the Association, and its affairs are controlled by a Board of twenty Managers.

The main edifice is a substantial structure, built of Sing Sing marble, to which a mansard attic has been recently added. A three-story brick building has also been erected in the rear. The whole is planned so as to secure a perfect separation of the sexes. The Superintendent of the Institution, Mr. W. B. Wait, expressed himself as opposed to buildings with L-shaped wings for asylum purposes, on the ground that they shut out the sun and induce fevers. He would have buildings so constructed, that while securing the needed separation of the sexes, they would permit the sun to shine into every room in the

house at some hour of the day. The site of the building, with reference to its convenience for receiving a water supply, he thought an important consideration, and stated that fully one barrel of water per day, for regular consumption, must be secured for each inmate, beside a reserve, in case of fire.

The number of inmates, on the day of visitation, was eighty-three boys and eighty-six girls. They are admitted between the ages of twelve and twenty-five years, and receive in the Institution a good practical education in the English branches, music and some branch of industry.

In regard to the peculiarities of blind children, Mr. Wait remarks: "Blind children have no peculiar characteristics in consequence of being blind, but their defect becomes the occasion of many. If, however, they are instructed in time, this, as a natural result, would be prevented. We do every thing we can to lead them to think they are not different from other children. We do not allow our teachers to talk to them as if they were different."

The education of the blind being a work of some difficulty, special provision must be made to meet their peculiar wants. The school is furnished with dissected maps, which, when put together, show the physical features of the countries by elevations and depressions. Globes, both terrestrial and celestial, are made on the same plan. For reading books, several kinds are adopted, some in the Boston type and some in the Glasgow type. The library embraces Bible history, novels, some selections from Shakspeare, Dickens, and Hawthorne. Most of the printing for the blind is in the Boston type. Mr. Wait, the Superintendent of this Institution, has invented a new system, which can be written as well as printed. By means of this the blind can write letters, compositions, music, or take notes in class. It is called the New York Point System. Points are substituted for lines. A certain number of points represent the letter A and a certain number each of the other letters of the alphabet, and thus any word can be written by combining these points.

In speaking of its capabilities, Mr. Wait says: "It enables the pupil to record his own thoughts and to express the thoughts of others. It enables him to produce something of his own. He becomes his own amanuensis and has thus facilities for recording and re-arranging his ideas on any subject. It gives him a power, of which he was before unconscious. The system is a complete one and is capable of expressing all shades of thought. Instead of depending on others to teach him his lesson, the pupil can learn it himself.

"The boys are taught to make mattresses under the instruction of a blind man, himself once a pupil in the institution.

"Many of our pupils go out with the means of self-support. One

of our girls belonged to a family of nine children. Her father was a poor, laboring man. She saved, while with us, enough money to buy herself a sewing machine. She has gone home, and now does all the sewing for the family as well as some for others. This she could not do by hand. This girl became blind in her early youth from small-pox, but is very intelligent. Instead of becoming dependent herself upon her family, she has become, so to speak, its main-stay, through the benefits bestowed upon her by means of this institution. Besides the peculiar advantages in this respect, she carries, it is thought, to her home the elevating influence of the institution which the wise foresight of the State has provided."

Considerable attention is given to music. There are seventeen pianos for the use of the pupils who are taking lessons. There is one in each of thirteen rooms, and in two other rooms there are two each. Music is taught both by teachers and advanced pupils. The latter instruct beginners and thus gain practice in the art of teaching. The superintendent says: "We have as fine a choir as is to be found in the city. They sing the Alleluiah Chorus, the best opera choruses, madrigals and the vocal music of the best authors." As we entered the assembly room, a primary class were receiving a lesson in music. The girls were on one side of the room and the boys on the other. There were in all about forty-five pupils. The teacher sat before a grand piano and played, while the children sang from memory. This room can accommodate four or five hundred. It contains an organ with twenty-one stops running through the entire key-board, and three manuals of keys. All the advanced scholars, whom it is thought may be benefited by the accomplishment, are taught to play. On the walls of the room are several mottoes, prominent among which is, "Light is Risen," the motto of the institution.

Three rooms are devoted to piano tuning; each was occupied, at the time of visitation, by one pupil, all under the supervision of one teacher, who is himself blind.

One of the rooms in the house was set apart for the younger girls. This was nicely carpeted and had a pleasant out-look. It was fitted up with closets for clothing. Each inmate has a drawer and a closet, used for clothing, and each knows her own. The superintendent says: "Occasionally we get one who is not exactly strict in observing the rights of property, but it gives us no trouble." A play-house is on the table. Another room of a similar character is used for the little boys. The children, it seems, appreciate bright and cheerful surroundings.

The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads, two feet eight and a half inches wide. Hair mattresses on the top of straw mattresses are used. The ventilation is by the windows, the sashes being adjusted by cords, weights and pulleys.

The dining room is sixty by fifty feet, and is embellished with illuminated mottoes. The girls occupy one side, the boys the other, while the teachers and officers sit at the central tables. They are indulged in the privilege of conversation to a limited degree. The tables at which the smaller children sit are covered with white enameled cloth, but the tables for the larger children are furnished like those of an ordinary family.

"This system of having teachers, officers and pupils eat together in the same dining room, and at the same time, has," says the Superintendent, "been inaugurated in order that all distinction between the blind and the seeing may be obliterated, that there may be no recognition of the blind as a class. The moral effect of this it is difficult to measure. The influence is rather of a social nature, refining and elevating. The blind are received here for the purpose of being educated. They have their faculties and, in the abstract, are equal to other men, only differing from them in the fact that they have been deprived of this one sense. It would be manifestly unjust to emphasize their misfortune by making a distinction at meal time. In 1863, I began to inform myself as to how the distinction heretofore observed as to the classification between the blind and the seeing affected the blind. I found them to be quite sensitive on the subject. This existed to such a degree that I was induced to make a change. At the proper time I called the teachers together and laid the matter before them, as something which they might indorse — which they might say they were glad of. They co-operated cordially with me, and I was thus enabled to make a change in our whole system in this respect, which, although attended with some difficulties at the outset, has been productive of very satisfactory results, and works quite harmoniously."

All the inmates appeared neatly clothed. The girls especially, it would seem, evince a disposition to ornament their hair, and are very fond of all kinds of personal embellishments. The material used for clothing is of good quality and varied. The Superintendent says: "We have a tailor in the house, who measures the boys so as to secure a good fit for each. I take great pains to have them becomingly attired. Our reasons for doing so are these: First, a blind person is quickly noticed. If there is any thing peculiar in their garments it attracts attention, and this makes their misfortune all the more apparent. Second, they appreciate neatness and even color. A blind person is seldom found who has not at some time seen, and retains a recollection of color. It is difficult to account for it. But this impression, possessed by every person who has once seen a color, whatever it may be, is never lost. He may have lost his sight before three years of age, but still it is remembered. The blind are conscious of the pleasure seeing-people have in looking upon diverse colors, and so when our children get a

new dress they are particular to ask what is its color, and derive particular satisfaction in being able to converse understandingly about it."

The infirmary department is well situated, and a nurse is specially employed for the work. The health of the children is carefully guarded, and every little indisposition of which they may complain, is treated at once, and thus more serious ailments are escaped.

The building is lighted with gas. It is heated by steam pipes, and provided with fire-proof stairways. Its drainage is good, and the water supply is from the city. The closet accommodations, part of which are without, and part within doors, are quite extensive and very ingeniously arranged.

The girls are taught to sew, knit and crochet, also the use of the sewing and knitting machines, on which they become fairly expert. A great many thread the needle as quickly and as surely with the teeth and tongue as persons having sight. Their fancy work includes many varieties, such as tidies, baskets, knitting work and bead work. As we were leaving the room allotted to this work, the girls were briskly promenading, arm in arm, and chatting in the hall.

An interesting feature of this institution consists in the savings bank system by which inmates may, while pursuing their education, accumulate a little capital to start with when leaving. Mr. Wait explains this feature as follows: "We compensate our pupils for the work which they perform while with us, giving each a proportion of their earnings—a third, a half, and in the last year the whole. Whatever they can earn while at school in this way is placed to their credit and accumulated in the savings bank. We have some seventy accounts at present, and they range all the way from five to one hundred dollars. When they leave, this serves as a capital with which to begin life."

The establishment in all its departments was found to be in good order. It is believed to be under efficient and highly intelligent management. The capacity of the institution is for about two hundred, but its funds do not admit of a greater number of inmates than one hundred and fifty.

The current expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$52,460.18. The average weekly cost of support was \$5.83 per capita. The funds and investments of the institution amount to \$19,000.

NEW YORK INSTITUTION FOR THE INSTRUCTION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB.

New York.

The grounds occupied by this institution comprise about twenty-six acres, and are located upon the banks of the Hudson river at

Washington Heights, between One Hundred and Sixty-second and One Hundred and Sixty-fifth streets. The entrance to the grounds is at the corner of Tenth avenue and One Hundred and Sixty-second street, about nine miles from the City Hall.

The institution was established by an association of benevolent gentlemen of the city of New York. Its affairs are controlled by a Board of Directors, selected by its life members. They serve without compensation. The title to the property is vested in the association. At present the institution is divided into two departments—the administrative and the educational. The former is under the charge of Wm. Porter, M. D., designated as the Superintendent and Physician, and the latter under the charge of Isaac Lewis Peet, A. M., LL. D., as Principal.

At the time the first steps toward founding this institution were taken, in 1816, there was not a school in America, for the deaf and dumb, and not more than twenty-five in Europe. More than sixty deaf-mutes were found in New York city, belonging to the very poor classes, for whose education no provision existed. A society was accordingly formed, and an act of incorporation obtained, dated April 15, 1817, and in May, 1818, the school was opened with four pupils. The system recommended by Dr. Watson, of England, was first tried for two years. This included the teaching of articulation, but the results were so unsatisfactory, that it became necessary to abandon it. Methods borrowed chiefly from the published works of the celebrated French teacher, Sicard, were next adopted with some success, till in February, 1831, Dr. Harvey P. Peet became Principal. He remained in that office thirty-six years, inaugurating the methods of tuition which have contributed so largely to the success of the institution. He was succeeded by his son, Isaac Lewis Peet, who still discharges the duties of that important position.

The school was first opened in one of the public buildings of the city. In 1829 it removed to the buildings on Fiftieth street, afterward occupied by Columbia college. In 1856 it removed to its present, beautiful and highly favorable site, known as Fanwood on Washington Heights.

At the date of visitation, October 22, the basis of the system of instruction was found to be the language of gestures, or what is called the Sign Language. For very young children, a method devised by Dr. Peet, called Language Lessons, is used. This holds the same relation to deaf-mutes that the Kindergarten system does to young children who have their hearing.

From Dr. Peet, in answer to inquiries, the following views were obtained, regarding the sign language and the visible speech method, sometimes called the "Improved System of Instruction for Deaf-mutes":

"The conclusion that I have come to, after many years' experience, is, that it is impossible, with congenital deaf-mutes, to prevent them thinking in the way of what may be called the sign language. They have no ideas that are not of a pictorial character. Their thought is nothing but a series of images. Their efforts to converse are nothing more nor less than the reproduction of these images. Even those who profess to dispense with the sign language altogether, cannot prevent the pupils conversing through that medium. It is only in the school-room that the attention of the deaf-mutes is turned to the other mode of expressing their thoughts.

"We do not use signs in the earlier exercises of the school, but in all explanations of abstract terms and difficult sentences, in all testing of their ability to give to thought expression in language, we use the sign language. In the early part of the course, however, we prefer to use a system of object teaching, in connection with the instruction of deaf-mutes, in order to give as many as we can the ability to express ideas by means of written language and by articulate speech.

"Articulation is nothing more than one of the forms of expressing in language the thought required. It is a means of expressing ideas. In almost all the schools there are persons who have lost their hearing at five or six years of age, without losing the ability to speak, if it was cultivated. In these cases it is obviously a duty to keep their speech, and require them to read the lips. Then there is a class of deaf persons, deaf from birth, who yet have a partial hearing. This advantage can be used to a great extent, if vocal intonation is given, and yet if they did not go to an instructor of the deaf and dumb they would learn no language. For such, articulation is desirable. But the class of congenital deaf mutes have never heard any sound; and it is, in my opinion, simply a question of economy, whether or not it is desirable to teach them articulation. It is only an approximation to speech. It is not really speech. It is no doubt a great comfort to their friends, who can accustom themselves to this kind of speech, but it is disagreeable to people generally. It makes their misfortune apparent. The cases of successful teaching of articulation among congenital deaf mutes are not very many. I think there is a great deal of time lost in teaching them the system. As an honest man, I do not favor it. In our institution we combine every thing which we think will be of any advantage to the pupil. We use Prof. A. G. Bell's system. There is no question of its value. The symbols in this system represent all the sounds made by the lips. We require the pupil to translate from a page of reading matter into these symbols. If he has done it correctly he will approximate the articulation of these words. Then we have deaf mutes who watch a speaker's lips, and put what he says into symbols. This exercise calls precise attention to what the speaker is

doing. We study every thing which we think will advance the interests of the deaf mutes. We do not wish to waste property or time by futile efforts. Our great aim is to teach them the English language; to enable them to communicate with the outside world. We make every thing yield to that. We spend a great deal of time on arithmetic, geography and book-keeping. The higher classes get a very good academic and scientific education in physics, chemistry and physiology. The higher mathematics are also taught, as well as grammar, rhetoric and logic. We do not attempt to teach foreign languages.

"Our pupils study natural history. We have a large cabinet used for illustrations, and our proximity to Central Park affords us unusual facilities for making this study interesting as well as of practical value to the scholars. I think our deaf mutes get a very good, sensible education."

The boys are instructed in some branch of mechanical industry, such as tailoring, shoemaking, and cabinet-making. This work is so arranged as not to interfere with their schooling. The school is divided into two departments. The first division go to school at 8 A. M. and remain till 12 M. The second division spend this time in the workshops, and attend school in the afternoon, while the first division take their place in the workshops. Thus one-half of the school is in the workshops and one-half at their studies. The girls learn to sweep, wash dishes, sew and do general housework.

Great care is said to be exercised to preserve the health of the inmates. Regarding the health and dispositions of deaf-mutes generally, the steward, Mr. Brainerd, remarks: "These children do not give any more trouble than others, but they are not so healthy. They usually come having a weakness somewhere, especially those that have become deaf through disease. So far as their dispositions are concerned, it depends very largely on the early training they have received. They are brought up, for the most part, on the street among other children who take advantage of their affliction. They say, 'there goes the dummy,' and hoot him. He gets, after a while, so that he feels that he must fight his way along. I have known persons to speak of some particular child as having a fearful disposition. But when you come to look into it, you will find that it is occasioned by the way in which he has been treated. Further than that I do not see any bad disposition in deaf-mutes."

The dormitories were furnished with both iron and wooden bedsteads, varying in width from two feet six inches to two feet eight inches. In the dining-room the furniture consists of table and stools; crockery plates, and knives and forks are used at meals. The building is heated by steam, lighted by gas and ventilated by fan ventilation. It has a capacity of about five hundred and fifty.

Wooden pins are inserted at intervals in the rails of the balustrades, and the open spaces are protected by rods laid across to prevent accidents to inmates who may chance to fall over. Water buckets are in the halls for use in case of fire.

The grounds about the institution are well laid out in pleasant walks and planted with shrubbery. They are so extensive that ample space is secured for the recreation of inmates. The garden is large and supplies all the vegetables needed.

The average number of inmates during the past year was five hundred and fifteen. The average weekly cost of support is \$5.50. The amount of current expenses, less clothing, for eleven months, from October 1, 1874, to September 1, 1875, is \$147,502.33. The total expenditures, including extraordinary expenditures during the same period, were \$160,767.41. Its receipts are as follows:

| | |
|--|------------------|
| From general appropriations..... | \$95,761 63 |
| From counties, towns and cities..... | 34,889 49 |
| From individuals for the support of inmates..... | 1,540 88 |
| From interests and dividends on investments..... | 5,498 62 |
| From all other sources..... | <u>23,468 72</u> |

The institution has invested funds to the amount of \$116,000.

The lateness of the hour at which the visit was made prevented a thorough inspection of the premises, but the impression made upon the mind was that the institution is maintained in a high condition of efficiency, and that its management is in every way creditable, not only to those directing its affairs, but to the State.

NEW YORK JUVENILE ASYLUM.

New York.

The New York Juvenile Asylum, incorporated June 30th, 1851, has for its objects "the receiving and taking charge of such truant, disobedient, friendless and neglected children of both sexes, between the ages of seven and fourteen years, as may be committed by competent authority, or voluntarily intrusted to its custody; the providing for their support, and the affording them the means of moral, intellectual and industrial education."

The following rules regarding the admission and discharge of children are observed:

"I. Truant and disobedient children, and such as require discipline for any cause, between seven and fourteen years of age, belonging to the city of New York, are admitted into this Asylum.

"II. An order from a Police Magistrate, or a *surrender* from parents or guardians, is required as the condition of admission.

"III. Children having no friends to care for them, or whose friends choose to give them up wholly to the care of the Asylum, are provided with homes in the country.

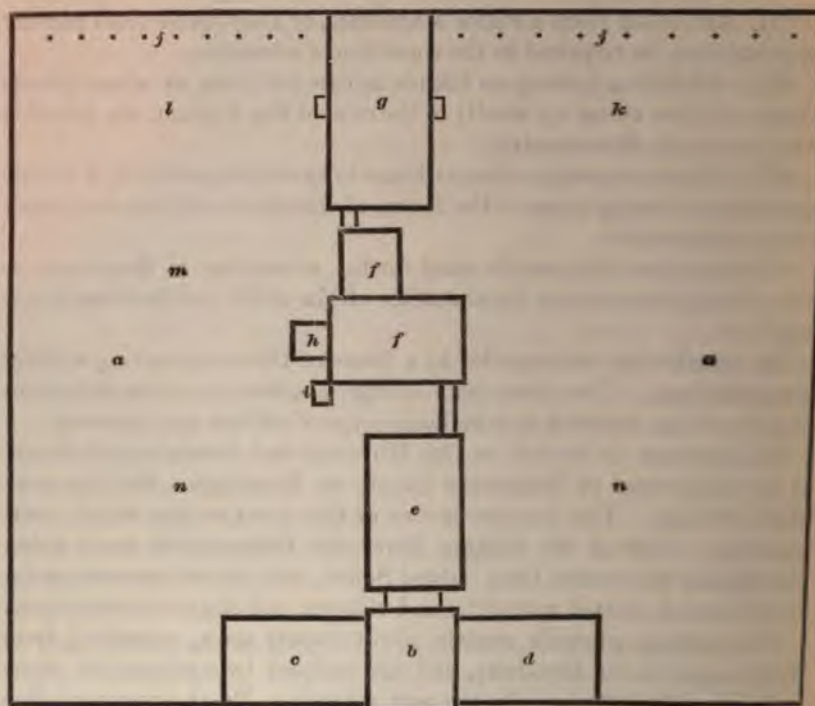
"IV. When parents or friends desire to *surrender* children, it is only necessary to bring them to the House of Reception and sign the proper form of surrender.

"*No uniform time* can be fixed for the attainment of these ends, as every thing depends on the character of the child, and its home training."

The institution is controlled by a Board of Directors, serving without compensation. The immediate charge is given to a Superintendent and physician, assisted by a suitable corps of officers and teachers.

The Asylum is located on One Hundred and Seventy-sixth street, at the upper end of Manhattan Island, on Washington Heights, near High Bridge. The location is one of the finest on the island, commanding a view of the Hudson River and Palisades for many miles, the Harlem River and Long Island Sound, and the whole country for miles around, dotted with cities and villages, and elegant country seats.

The Asylum grounds contain about twenty acres, extending from Tenth avenue to Broadway, and are inclosed by a substantial stone wall and picket fence. On the part adjoining Tenth avenue is a fine oak grove of four acres, and a new double cottage for the use of employés. Twelve acres are used for farm and garden purposes. The buildings and yards occupy the remaining four acres, which form an eminence near the central part of the grounds, and are inclosed on three sides by a brick wall eight feet high. A ground plan of the buildings, showing their extent and the uses to which they are severally devoted, is here given. The Asylum is easily reached by the Hudson River Railroad, taking the cars at Thirtieth street and Ninth avenue, and stopping at Fort Washington Depot.



PLAN OF BUILDINGS.

a a. Inclosure wall of brick, 400 feet rear, 585 feet deep, and 8 feet high.

b. Center front building, 50x60, containing the Superintendent's and officers' apartments and ward on fourth floor.

c. West wing, 45x75, containing the girls' apartments in the basement and on first floor, and boys' wards on second and third floors.

d. East wing, 45x75, containing a cellar, basement-kitchen, store-room and temperance room, and boys' wards on first, second and third floors.

e. North wing, 44x83, containing the children's dining room in basement, chapel on first floor, teachers' rooms on second floor, and hospital on third.

f f. School building, 40x66, and wing, 26x35, containing a cellar, a laundry, kitchen and bakery on first floor, four school-rooms on the second floor, and four on the third.

g. Gymnasium building, 42x108, containing a cellar, a bath-room and a gymnasium on first floor, shoe shop, tailor shop and sewing room on second floor, and wards on third floor.

h. Engine house, 24x27, with three boilers.

i. Engine chimney.

j j. Sheds in boys' yards, 200 and 150 feet long and 14 wide.

k. Boys' play-ground, first division.

l. Boys' play-ground, second division.

m. Girls' yard.

n n. Flower-beds, grass-plats, shrubs and trees.

The dormitories are forty-five by sixty feet, each containing seventy-two iron bedsteads. These are narrow, some being two feet and some two feet two inches wide. Straw mattresses, cotton sheets and pillow slips, and woolen blankets are in use. The rooms are ventilated both day and night by opening the windows.

The children wash in running water, and bathe every Wednesday and Saturday afternoons.

The tables in the dining rooms are furnished with crockery ware; the children sit on stools at the table.

A school is held on the premises, where the children are instructed in the ordinary branches of an English education. There are eight grades, each under competent teachers. The annual visitation and examination of the schools was made by the city school superintendent in September. Special instruction is given the children in vocal music.

The industrial department is an important auxiliary in the work of this institution, and is considered of primary importance to the children, who are soon to be thrown upon their own resources. Of this department the Superintendent, Mr. E. M. Carpenter, says:

"We endeavor to educate the hands as well as the heads and hearts of the children; not, however, by a rigorous exaction of as much work as unwilling hands can be forced to accomplish in a specified time, but rather as the children of a well-ordered family are taught to make themselves useful in door and out, each cheerfully and industriously engaged in performing the allotted labor or duty. Under the direction of persons properly qualified, the children make and mend all the children's clothing and shoes, bake the bread, do the kitchen, dining room and house work, and all the work of the garden and farm."

Thirty-eight girls work in the sewing department, in two divisions, alternating forenoon and afternoon, so that each may be able to attend school. Thirty-two are in the mending department, also in two divisions, for the same reason. Fifty-six boys work in the tailor shop, twenty-six in the shoe shop, three in the bakery and a few on the farm; their work, like that of the girls, being so arranged that their schooling goes on regularly at the same time. Some of the boys are organized into a brass band, having a full set of silver cornet instruments, drums, etc., and under the direction of the foreman of the shop, who is also a musician, they are drilled from one to two hours daily in band music, playing by note. The first band, organized four years ago, were all discharged within two years, and a second band formed, but eleven of whom remain. They play very finely. A third band of twenty-six members has recently been organized.

The chapel or assembly room is capable of seating five or six hun-

dred children. The speaker's desk occupies an elevated platform at one end. The teachers, during Sabbath exercises, are seated at the left, facing the children. The organ is upon the right. Upon the wall over the organ is a tablet, upon which is inscribed :

"Tell the boys of the New York Juvenile Asylum that they must follow truth, justice and humanity if they wish to become useful and honorable men.

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

"September, 1860."

This message was sent to the boys by Mr. Lincoln upon his being invited on a certain occasion to visit the asylum.

Children are kept, on an average, about one and a-half years, when they are returned to their friends, if they have any. If they have none, they are sent to the Western Agency.

About one-fourth of the discharged children are sent west, and the others are returned to their parents or placed in families in this State.

The discipline and system of management adopted by the Superintendent, as well as his views on the general subject of the reformation of juvenile delinquents were sought, and the following ideas elicited:

"I call a conduct roll at the close of each week. For ordinary misconduct a child receives one or more misconduct marks. Five such marks received during the week, lower the standard from first grade, good conduct, to second grade. Five more the week following will lower it to third grade. And five more the week after, to the fourth or lowest grade, and the child is then deprived of play for one week. Any in the fourth grade may reach first grade by ascending a step each week.

"Where, in the experience and judgment of the Superintendent or principal teacher, corporal punishment would have the desired effect, it is administered by them. Cases that are supposed to require it are referred to them. Cases of serious misdemeanor are always referred to myself.

"I aim at good family discipline. Consequently, in cases of misconduct the child's attention is directed to himself as guilty of wrongdoing, care being taken not to divert his attention to some formal rule, as if the effect of the misconduct consisted chiefly in being degraded on the roll-book, or in the misfortune of being deprived of the privilege of wearing a badge on his coat collar, or something of that kind.

"The great lever which is used here, in maintaining good discipline and securing the reformation of the children, is not a well-wrought roll system, or badge of honor system, or any other device that directs the attention of the children chiefly to outward conduct, while in the

institution; but it is this rather: I seek to show them themselves, their habits, their course of life and the result, if unchanged; to show them the steps to be taken in changing their course, and the assistance we can render them here. This is done not in a set, formal way; but by familiar talks with the children, when they are assembled in chapel or school, and by personal conversation with them, giving special attention to the boys who exert a controlling influence. I educate my officers and teachers to the same ideas. The result is the establishment of a public sentiment among the children, that is for good. Such is the basis of good family government, and we make it the basis of our discipline here. I know of no other method that is truly reformatory in its character and influence.

"The children here try to do right, because it is right, not because they get paid for it by certain privileges and immediate advantages. Our conduct roll is simply auxiliary.

"Our children are assembled morning and evening, for the reading of the scriptures, singing and prayer. The chapel services on Sabbath forenoon are conducted by myself. We have no sectarian teaching. In the afternoon we have a Sabbath-school, the children being assembled in their several class-rooms, and taught by their teachers, who use the International Series of Sunday-school Lessons.

"Home is the proper place for a child, but as homes are not always what they should be, and as they are often broken up, and for that and other reasons, children become truant and disobedient and need restraint, institutions become a necessity. But the assembling of a great many children in one family compels the adoption of rules for the maintenance of order, etc., which are necessitated by the circumstance of numbers. Children in an institution, therefore, whether there be twenty or five hundred, must of necessity, by reason of numbers, be subjected to rules and deprivations, not necessary in a family. But the conduct of the child necessitated the institution, and the institution necessitated the discipline, at least that part of it which, like school discipline, becomes necessary simply by reason of numbers. These disadvantages, however, are more than compensated by the advantages which accrue. Nevertheless, children should not be subjected to such rules, day and night, and deprived of family privileges longer than may be necessary to lay a permanent foundation for a different course of life in future. I have seen so many instances of the ill-effects of institution discipline and restraints, when continued through a course of years, that I am thoroughly convinced there is almost as much danger from detaining children too long in an institution, as from a too short detention, and the effect of the latter is almost invariably pernicious.

"If institutions like the Juvenile Asylum, which receives children

in the early stages of delinquency, were multiplied, I think there would not be any need of multiplying Houses of Refuge.

"A more complete classification of delinquent youth is very important. Instead of having the classification made in one institution, with the idea of making promotions, as in the Irish system, I would prefer entirely separate institutions. For example, when the judges commit boys to us that are hardened and better fitted for the Refuge, we request that they be committed there, which is generally done. Stubborn children in Orphan and other Asylums are committed to us.

"The special object of a reformatory should be to lay the foundation for a permanent change for the better in the character and habits of its inmates or wards. If this object is not attained, then the management is a failure, and the money expended for the support of the institution is, in part at least, virtually thrown away, no matter how economical the management of its finances, or how excellent the discipline may appear to be. Such at least are the views on which my management of an institution is based. According to my observation, the most serious mistake in the management of reformatories lies generally in the discipline. To maintain order in a family of four or five hundred bad boys, especially when they are assembled in one room, as a dining room or chapel, and to guard against the constant practice of lying, profanity and pilfering, and other habits which have become to them almost second nature, is so difficult a task, that to accomplish it successfully is thought by many to be the all-important object, as if the special object of a reformatory was simply to maintain order and secure obedience to a series of rules and regulations.

"Hence the problem with many disciplinarians has been, 'How can I secure order and discipline?' Some have felt that it could be secured only by severity, corporal punishment being chiefly relied on. Others have devised various methods, all based on an appeal to pride and selfishness. A boy sees on the one hand high walls and the difficulty of escape; on the other hand he learns that strict obedience and conformity to rules will secure his one desire, release. He chooses the latter, and the result is a suppression of bad habits, not a change in them, not a permanent reformation. My method has been this: to establish a sound public sentiment for good among the children as the basis of discipline and of reformation, and this I do by plain, familiar talks to the children from time to time when they are assembled, usually in chapel before retiring for the night, and by personal conversation with the hardest and most influential among them; I hold up their past lives before them, their habits, and what these would lead to; I contrast them with obedient boys and good habits, and I impress it upon their minds that it is possible for them to change for the better, and that this is the special object of this institution. The right and

justice of all requirements are presented to them, and the general result is cheerful obedience. In this way I awaken their hopes and secure their confidence."

An interesting feature of the Juvenile Asylum is that of a temperance society formed among the boys. For this purpose they have a room of their own tastefully fitted up with appropriate pictures, mottoes, charts, black-boards, library, organ, etc. Under the superintendence of one of the asylum officers the boys choose their own officers and conduct their meetings on each Friday evening. They are regularly instructed by the superintending officer in physiology and other subjects bearing upon the subject of temperance. The members of the temperance society, numbering usually about eighty, sign a pledge not to use tobacco or liquor, nor to indulge in profane language. The general influence of the society upon the children is good, and it is asserted by the asylum officials "that the boys who become members of it, with few exceptions, will hold to their pledge through life."

The boys and girls are encouraged to cultivate plants and flowers; certain of them having spaces of ground allotted to them for this purpose.

On October 1, 1875, there were in the institution five hundred and thirty-eight inmates, twenty of whom were partially or entirely supported by friends, and five hundred and eighteen were supported by the cities. One hundred and sixty-four were of native and three hundred and seventy-four of foreign parentage.

Forty were orphans, two hundred and seventy-nine half-orphans, and two hundred and nineteen had both parents living.

The number of children received during the year ending September 30, 1875, was six hundred and eighteen; the number discharged, six hundred and forty-two. Of the latter number, two were placed out by indenture, four hundred and eighty-five returned to parents or guardians, one left without permission and one died. One hundred and fifty-three were transferred to the western agency.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$85,500.67. The value of its invested funds, from which an income is derivable, is about \$5,000.

The original cost of the land purchased at Washington Heights was \$1,800 per acre. Its present value is set down at about \$15,000 per acre, and the total valuation of buildings and appurtenances is now estimated at from \$120,000 to \$150,000.

The Western Agency.

A large dwelling, with an acre of land, has recently been purchased at Normal, near Bloomington, Ill., which is occupied by the Western Agent, Mr. E. Wright.

"Children are sent from the Asylum to the Agency at favorable seasons of the year, in companies of from 20 to 40. These companies are not usually brought to the Agency Home and distributed from there, but taken directly to some point where the fact and date of their coming have for several weeks previous been advertised. From among the applicants gathered to meet them, those who have been selected are permitted to take the children upon trial for a period of two weeks.

"If all parties are suited, the child will then be apprenticed until of age — boys until 21, girls until 18. The articles of indenture provide: (1) that the child shall be cared for both in sickness and in health, with proper medical treatment, food and clothing; (2) instructed in some trade; (3) sent to school four months in each year; (4) trained in moral and religious precepts and habits; (5) paid a specified sum of money at the end of the term of apprenticeship.

"Provision is also made for relief in case of dissatisfaction or difficulties which cannot be otherwise adjusted."

Mr. Wright, in his report dated December 31, 1875, gives the following interesting information regarding the work in this department:

"Wards of this year. — There have been received from the Asylum, 153 children — 124 boys and 29 girls — sent out in six companies:

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| February 22..... | 23 boys, 3 girls. | Total, 26 |
| April 26..... | 21 " 7 " | " 28 |
| June 7..... | 23 " 5 " | " 28 |
| Sept. 6..... | 32 " 7 " | " 39 |
| Oct. 18..... | 11 " 7 " | " 18 |
| Nov. 29..... | 14 " — " | " 14 |

"Their average age was 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ years.

"There were committed for destitution, 79; for disobedience, 21; for truancy, 36; for pilfering, 7; for vagrancy, 10.

"Twenty-five per cent (37 children) were full orphans, fifty-five per cent (85 children) were half-orphans; father dead, 45; mother dead, 40; and twenty per cent (31 children) had both parents living.

"Their parentage was: Irish, 62; American, 37; German, 35; English, 12; Scotch, 3; French, Swiss, Italian and Cuban one each.

"They have been placed on trial in 227 houses; 98 have been placed once, 33 twice, 12 three times, 5 four times, and 1 seven times, and four absconded before placing; 118 have been indentured, 3 are working for wages, 3 have been returned to the Asylum, 2 are at the House, 8 have absconded, and 19 are still on trial. Ten of those indentured have since been removed, of whom six have been re-indentured and 4 are still on trial.

"The whole number of visits made on account of these children is 256, and the number of removals since the first placing is 79.

“Wards of former years. — The number of wards of this class reported by the Agency to the General Office is 505, of whom 141 have been visited, and the others have been reported to the Agency by employers, 12 orally and 352 by letter. Sixty of these wards have been removed and replaced, of whom 21 have since been indentured, 14 are working for wages, 18 are still on trial, 2 have been sent to New York, 2 are at the Agency, 3 have absconded, 10 placed last year have been indentured. Seven indentures have been canceled by order of the committee in the case of boys sufficiently advanced in age and skill to make their way without further aid from the Agency. The whole number of visits made on account of these wards is 233, and the whole number of removals is 78.

“Field work. — The labor performed in this branch of work has been bestowed upon the wards of this and former years in about equal proportions. The first placing has been attended with almost no trouble beyond that of thoroughly advertising the coming of the several companies, and of selecting from among the many applicants those most worthy to be intrusted with apprentices. Much pains has been taken to awaken a general interest in the work, and on every occasion the companies have been greeted on their arrival by a large concourse of citizens ready to offer them homes. It is probable that no better method than this of securing good homes could be devised. The sight of a company of children thus situated moves many to apply for them, purely out of sympathy and kindly feeling, who have no expectation of any pecuniary benefit, and who would not go to an institution in quest of them, as many do, when actuated by selfish motives.

“The children in all cases have been placed on trial for a period of two weeks, and sixty-four per cent have been indentured at the expiration of the first trial. The remaining thirty-six per cent have been re-placed from one to seven times. Of this latter number thirteen per cent have subsequently been indentured, and the remainder, except the few who have been otherwise disposed of, are still on trial.

“Children who become a public charge may be classified as (1) destitute, (2) demoralized, (3) criminal, (4) defective. With the first class an apprenticing agency can deal successfully, and with the second it can deal satisfactorily, after their wayward and vicious propensities have been cured by skillful treatment in a reformatory. It is chiefly with these two classes that this agency has to deal, and its success is mainly attributable to the thorough preparation for apprenticing which they receive at the Asylum before they are committed to its charge. *As a rule, private families cannot manage demoralized children, and it is better economy to detain them for a while in efficient training schools than to consign them to an apprenticing agency, with their evil habits and propensities uncured.*

"The latter two classes, comprising those who have become fully developed criminals, and those who are diseased, deformed, feeble minded, deaf mutes and blind, families will seldom consent to receive and maintain, and they must needs be cared for in public establishments. * * * * *

"In addition to the present corps of laborers which is occupied with the unavoidable work, there is needed an agent for general visitation. This line of work has been prosecuted only to a very limited extent, but its importance can hardly be overstated. * * *

"Inquiry is often made as to what proportion of agency wards do well. Fifty per cent may be said to do well throughout their minority and afterward, though many do not remain in their first homes, nor in any homes as apprentices through their full terms. A large proportion of the remainder are occasionally somewhat troublesome, and a portion of them become so insubordinate and wayward as to cause solicitude for their future. But even of the troublesome ones a large proportion ultimately become prosperous and reputable, and it is believed that ninety per cent of all the wards may be included in the number of those who, in the long run, do fairly well. This opinion is based upon abundant data, and is not a mere random guess."

The House of Reception for this Asylum is located at 61 West Thirtieth street, in the city of New York. The office of the institution is here, where all the children are received and discharged, and the meetings of the committees and the Board of Managers are held. It consists of a four-story brick building, seventy-five feet front, with wing and basement, and is fully equipped for the permanent accommodation of one hundred and thirty children. It is under the charge of E. D. Carpenter, Superintendent. The object of the house is to afford a temporary stopping place for the children committed to the Asylum. From here they are transmitted to Washington Heights. All children voluntarily surrendered to the institution are first brought here. Commitments are also received here, and the particulars relative to the cause of arrest, the personal character and history of the child, as far as practicable, are ascertained and recorded. While in the house the habits of the children are carefully studied and their instruction provided for. The time of detention here is twenty days, during which the child may be removed, but at the expiration of that period the surrender or commitment becomes final, and the child is in the full custody of the institution.

In the room of the Board of Directors are two large frames, "containing," the Superintendent says, "the photographs of about ninety children that have been sent West years ago, and who now are men of property, occupying good positions there. We have records of all of them." There was also a portrait of the venerable President of the

Society, Mr. A. R. Wetmore. This gentleman is, we were informed, "now eighty years old, and yet he visits here on all holidays, and comes regularly every Sunday afternoon and reads stories to the children."

In the small dormitories were found single iron bedsteads two feet six inches wide. Husk beds and husk pillows were used. The larger dormitory contained one hundred and twenty single iron bedsteads. It was well-lighted, having windows on three sides, well-ventilated and had a fresh, sweet atmosphere. On the window-sills were placed boards at an angle of forty-five degrees. Back of this the window is raised about five or six inches. In this way a current of air is admitted without striking the heads of the boys. Night closets are attached to the apartment. There were also buckets of water in the dormitory and upper halls, for use in case of fire. A separate stairway in the building is designed for a fire-escape.

"The number of inmates," the Superintendent says, "fluctuates very much. We have been recently accommodating over one hundred and thirty, our capacity is but for one hundred and twenty. We have, however, a vacant dormitory, which is used when the number is larger."

In the school rooms we found thirty-six boys dressed in suits of grey, with hair cut tolerably close, and averaging in age about eight years. Among them were two colored boys. In another room for the larger children there were about fifty-two boys under instruction. Their average age was about eleven years. This room is used also as a chapel. It was furnished with patent desks and chairs, and also contained an organ. The school is under the supervision of the Department of Public Instruction.

The dining room has a seating capacity for one hundred and twenty children. White table cloths are used, also stools instead of benches. It is a pleasant room. The legs of the stools are set in a plank, and so adjusted that, by removing the plank, the whole range of stools can be simultaneously set aside. The boys are taught to seat themselves at the table in an orderly manner. They repeat, in concert, the following form of grace: "We thank Thee, our Heavenly Father, for these gifts of Thy Providence and for the expression of Thy goodness, and may these mercies lead us to Thyself through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen."

The tables are furnished with crockery plates, knives, forks and spoons.

The following is the usual dietary, as given us by the Superintendent: Bread and milk for breakfast and supper; and for dinner, meat, potatoes and other vegetables.

In wet weather the boys congregate in a large play-room, provided for that purpose, with yards adjoining.

The bath-room contains a large circular vat, eleven and a half feet in diameter, made of brick and cement, with a stone coping, three feet deep on the inside, and two feet three inches from the floor on the outside. A two-inch pipe is carried around the inner rim, filled with small perforations, about thirteen inches apart, enabling the boys to gather around and wash in running water. It is supplied with hot and cold water. Towels on rollers are used, instead of a separate one for each lad. The water closets are in the yards.

A camera obscura has been provided for the entertainment of the children on winter evenings.

Only boys are kept here. "Formerly," says the Superintendent, "we kept girls, but now we send them up to Washington Heights immediately upon their arrival."

The institution employs an agent to visit in their homes the children after they are discharged. "The agent in the city," the Superintendent remarks, "goes to see that the children have suitable homes, and by calling upon them afterward he finds that it has a very salutary influence. Thinking he may come around, they are more apt to show obedience. The very fact of his visiting has an influence on them. He writes up reports of his visits in the record book every night. The agent's time is spent continually in visiting. Children are discharged this week, for instance; he will wait for a couple of weeks, and then go around and call at all the different places. He is often obliged to go repeatedly to the same place. The parents frequently say to him, 'my boy is inclined to be a little wild, and I think if you would call around it would be well.'

"He sometimes finds that the parents cannot care for their children, and a little conversation induces them to send them to homes in Illinois. He does not often continue his visits after the space of a year and a half or two years. He can determine in that time whether there is a necessity for it."

Since the organization of the New York Juvenile Asylum seventeen thousand seven hundred and twenty-two children have been brought under its reformatory influences. It has accomplished, without question, a vast amount of good during the period of its existence, and it is believed that if institutions directed and controlled by benevolent individuals, without compensation, aided by the public authorities, and supervised by the State, were multiplied, society would be greatly benefited thereby. This institution originated out of the philanthropic spirit of its founders, and the work it has successfully accomplished may be owing, in a great degree, to the continued exercise of the same spirit directing all its affairs, and the securing, for the discharge of its

varied duties, not only efficient but humane officers. It is not, even with the per capita allowance made by the city for its inmates, self-supporting. The sum of \$10,715 was realized last year by donations and voluntary contributions.

THE NEW YORK JUVENILE GUARDIAN SOCIETY.

New York.

This organization should not be confounded with the New York Juvenile Asylum, nor the American Female Guardian Society, both of which institutions are of a widely different character, though having titles somewhat similar.

The Society formerly maintained a school in one of the upper rooms of 207 Bowery. This was found, on October 12th, to have been given up.

The Society still keeps in session a school at No. 101 St. Mark's Place. The school occupies the first floor over the basement of what was formerly a private dwelling-house. Some other parts of the house are rented to poor families. About one hundred and thirty children of both sexes were in attendance, some of these being taught, in the front part of the house, by the principal, a gentleman, and the remainder in the back part, by a lady. The average age of the children was about eight years.

The principal, Mr. Eugene Eshman, at the date of visitation, October 12, made the following statement: "The school is opened and closed with singing, reading the Bible and repeating the Lord's Prayer. We teach the common branches. German is also taught. Most of the children are German. Nothing is given now to the children in the way of food. I was not here last winter, and can only speak from hearsay as to what is given to the children in winter, but I hear they get a warm substantial meal. We are not distributing any thing now, but if a boy comes here and says he is very poor, and wants shoes, I go down to Mr. Robertson, the secretary, and try to get something for him."

The lady teacher complained of the room being cold, and the children suffering in consequence. She said she had thirty-two boys and twenty-seven girls, that no fuel had been sent in, and that they could have no fire in consequence; that the attendance was falling off; that some of the children had taken cold, and were at home sick, and that others the mothers objected to send, lest they should catch cold.

The books used by the children were very much soiled and worn. There was a lack of black-board space, and a general appearance of

neglect in all the appointments of the school; there was, however, a piano on the principal's platform. The day was raw and cold, requiring the use of overcoats, and fires were in general use elsewhere. The rooms were cold and cheerless, and the children appeared to be pinched and suffering, their condition exciting our pity.

Both the lady and gentleman teachers seemed kindly disposed and intelligent, but, it appeared, they had not been long engaged, and knew little of the Society or its affairs.

No report from this institution has been rendered for the past year regarding its financial condition, or as to the number of children that have come under its care.

NEW YORK LADIES' HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

New York.

A very important branch of the work of this Society is that known as the Five Points Mission at 61 Park street, which is mainly devoted to the elevation of children, and to it our attention in this report will be solely directed.

The Mission at 61 Park street, generally known as the "Five Points," was organized in 1850, and is the eighth mission inaugurated by the New York Ladies' Home Missionary Society in the neglected and destitute portions of the city. Before securing its present site the work was carried on in a hired room, formerly a liquor store, at the corner of Cross and Little Water streets.

When the advisability of securing more commodious accommodations became apparent, and the Society had resolved to change, its Advisory Committee undertook to ascertain what suitable locations for their mission were available, and report the results of their inquiry. Various places were named by these gentlemen, but before any selection was made one of the ladies, Mrs. J. A. Wright, whose errands of mercy among the residents of that ward made her familiar with the entire locality, proposed the purchase of the old brewery, very much to the surprise and even to the amusement of the gentlemen. This lady it would seem, however, had a clearer perception of the needs of the work than any of the others present at the meeting, and by urging and pleading she at length succeeded in winning over to her view all the members, and steps were taken to carry out her suggestion.

The following sketch of the history of the Mission is given by one familiar with the subject: "The locality known as the Five Points, as it existed twenty-six years ago, has been often described, and is well known to have been the most God-forsaken place ever existing in a

Christian land. It was here that a band of Christian ladies inaugurated the great reformatory work which has proved to be such a triumphant success. They entered upon the hazardous enterprise in the name of the Holy Trinity, accompanied by a missionary appointed from the New York Conference of Methodist Ministers and an Advisory Committee of judicious business men. In the month of May, 1850, they hired a house on the corner of Park and Little Water streets, and opened a Sunday-school of about seventy scholars, who were rude and disorderly in the extreme. In the after part of the same day they held a public service for the benefit of the older population. From that date the Mission has braved every difficulty and gone on successfully in the midst of nameless trials and hindrances."

The notorious Old Brewery building was purchased in 1851, cleared and occupied. In 1853 it was taken down, and the present edifice erected. The main building is one hundred feet front and four stories high, above a well-ventilated basement. In the central portion of the building is an excellent chapel, extending throughout the whole length of two stories, the ceiling of which is supported by iron columns. Two floors above the chapel are fitted up with separate rooms for poor families. The rear building is devoted wholly to school purposes. It is one hundred feet front by one hundred and forty-six deep, and admirably adapted to the uses for which it was built.

The Mission is under the patronage of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is governed by a Board of Lady Managers. It is under the immediate charge of Rev. C. S. Brown, Superintendent. A lady visitor, a clerk, a financial secretary and several teachers form the corps of workers. No domestics are employed. A janitor is hired to take charge of the premises. From November till May an industrial school is in operation, which is largely attended, and necessitates additional teachers.

On the day of visitation, October 12, there were in the house fifty children and twenty adult inmates. There were also in attendance upon the day-school over four hundred children, and upon the Sabbath-school over five hundred. The children in the day-school are given bread daily, and supplied from time to time with clothing, as they need it. The clothing is made by a number of ladies, who meet in the house regularly for the purpose of sewing for the children.

On the day of visitation ten of these ladies were thus engaged. Two of these, Mrs. Wm. B. Skidmore and Mrs. Wm. Ryer, whom we had the pleasure of meeting in the office, have been connected with the Mission twenty-six and twenty-five years, respectively.

"These ladies," says the Superintendent, "with others equally devoted to the work, give their hearts to it, and are wholly intent on doing good to the children under our care. They bear their own

expenses, even to the lunch provided for them on the days they are here. * * * Mrs. J. A. Wright has also been engaged in this work from its inception, and in all these years, save when absent with her husband, has manifested the deepest interest in the welfare of the unfortunate in this locality."

Various religious services are held on the premises to aid in the furtherance of the work. There is preaching morning and evening on Sunday, a lecture on Tuesday evening, and, from time to time, other religious exercises.

Regarding the adult inmates of the house the Superintendent says: "We have accommodations for seventeen families, whom we receive and shelter during some period of temporary embarrassment. They are usually composed of a widow and her dependent children, a mother deserted by her husband, or similar cases of distress. One of the families lately relieved was that of a business man on Broadway, who, in consequence of loss of sight, was reduced to poverty. These families have rooms free of rent, and are assisted in other ways till they are again able to acquire an independence.

"We have a lady visitor, Miss Elliot, who is indefatigable in her work among poor families. She has been connected with the Society for thirteen years. The school is under the supervision of the Department of Public Instruction."

The principal school room is twenty-seven feet long, furnished with patent desks. Mottoes are on the walls. A piano is placed on a dais in front of the teacher's desk. Good specimens of the children's writing were framed and hung upon the wall as an example to stimulate others. This room is also used as an assembly room, and such exercises as the children have in concert are held here. The school is divided into six grades, all taught by separate teachers. In the infants' department were about one hundred children. The room is fitted up with a gallery.

A good deal of singing is combined with their instruction, which requires the use of a piano, with which the department is furnished. In the next grade were seventy-five children. Among these were observable many Italian faces.

At a given signal the children came together into the assembly room, marching in from their various classes, with their hands behind them, in charge of their teachers, keeping time with the piano, on which a march was being played by the principal, Mrs. Van Aken.

The children, on being seated, sang, in good time and with much spirit, "Hold the Fort." Then a little girl read a composition on "Robin Red Breast," after which they all sang the anthem, "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Calisthenic exercises were then engaged in. The teacher played

a lively piece, and a little girl, an adept in the exercises, stood on a chair, and led the others. The exercises were performed with such expertness and exactness as to gratify one's sense of order, while the novelty of their movements, at one time, in the undulatory motion of innumerable hands, resembled the fluttering of leaves. These exercises, while developing the physique of the children, were inspiring, and evidently a source of entertainment.

"Some of the best scholars," the Superintendent says, "make their home in the house, and attend the ward schools. The teachers have all been connected with the Mission for long periods. Mrs. G. Van Aken, the principal, has been engaged in the school for eighteen years; Miss Schaffer, the First Assistant, thirteen years; Miss Thompson, ten; Miss Osborne, eight; and Miss McEvoy, in charge of the infant department, has been a long time in the Mission."

In the reading room the tables were covered with green enameled cloth, and the room, with its furniture, appeared to be in perfect order. "Six years ago last May," the Librarian says, "the reading room was opened."

This is for the use of young men who wish to avail themselves of its privileges in the evening. Upon a later occasion it was visited at about nine o'clock at night, when it was found to be well lighted. A number of young men were seated in plain but comfortable chairs, absorbed in reading.

This room is in the basement. The windows of the apartment, looking out upon the street, are protected by iron work to prevent injury from the mischievously disposed. The statement must be made with regret, that, notwithstanding the purely benevolent intentions of this work, it had not found entire favor with the lower type of humanity in the neighborhood, as in the entrance-way were seen evidences of missiles of an offensive character, that had been thrown recently within, much to the annoyance of the librarian, an elderly gentleman. As we passed in and out a policeman was standing at the door. He was stationed there as a precautionary measure by the captain of the police. The librarian stated that the interruptions of late years were comparatively few.

The chapel is an apartment with side galleries, and is capable of seating five or six hundred persons. It is furnished with a piano. In addition to the other religious exercises is a large bible class, which has been in operation some time. Its first members are now grown men and women.

The aim of this society is sufficiently indicated by its name. It is to brighten the homes of the poor and ennoble their inmates; to elevate families in the natural way, by making them retrace the steps taken in their progress downward to wretchedness and dependence.

"We try," says Mrs. Wm. Ryer, "to inculcate the home spirit among the children. We try to keep families together and elevate them, and really the families are reached through the children." Aside from the christianizing influences of the work, not only upon the inmates and upon the homes from which they come, the burdens of pauperism are greatly lessened by helping families over difficulties at times, which, but for this aid, would break them down and render them charges upon the public.

The total expenditures of the society during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$17,000.84. The amount of invested funds from which an income is derivable, is \$1,000. Its financial statement shows no indebtedness. The Superintendent says, "notwithstanding the pressure of the times, we have been greatly favored during the past year, and our work was probably never more hopeful than at the present time."

THE NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY
TO CHILDREN.

New York.

This society was incorporated by an act of the Legislature, passed April 21, 1875. Its objects, as stated by its President, John D. Wright, are substantially as follows:

"To enforce, by lawful means and with energy, the laws now existing for the protection of children, and to secure the prompt conviction and punishment of every violator of those laws, not vindictively, not to gain public applause, but to convince those who cruelly ill-treat and shamefully neglect little children, that the time is passed when this can be done in this State with impunity." After enumerating a large number of asylums and institutions devoted to the care and reformation of children, the President further states that "these organizations, which it is the aim of the society to aid, assume the care and control of the inmates only after they have been legally placed in their custody. It is not within their province to seek out and to rescue from the dens and slums of the city those little unfortunates whose childish lives are rendered miserable by the constant abuse and cruelties practiced on them by the human brutes who happen to possess the custody or control of them. This work the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children undertakes and proposes to carry out.

"Ample laws have been passed by the Legislature of this State for the protection of, and prevention of cruelty to, little children. The trouble seems to be that it is nobody's business to enforce them. The societies and institutions referred to have as much as—nay, more than

they can attend to, in providing for those intrusted to their care. The police and prosecuting officers of the people are necessarily engrossed in securing the conviction and punishment of offenders of a graver legal stripe; and although ready to aid in enforcing the laws referred to when duly called on so to do, can hardly be expected to seek out and prosecute those who claim the right to ill-treat children over whom they have no apparent legal control.

"Hence the child-beaters live in comparative security. Hence the children, hardened by brutality and cruelty, grow up to be men and women scarcely less hardened than their tyrants. The men swell the ranks of the 'dangerous classes' which imperil the public peace and security, and the women are lost, body and soul, often before they are women in age and maturity."

The office of the society is located at 860 Broadway.

The Secretary, Mr. E. Fellows Jenkins, during a visit to the office, October 7, furnished the following information in regard to the operations of the society:

"We have agents about the city to look after poor children in the streets. In cases where we find children are hired to beg, we arrest the parties who hire them out. This is frequently done by Italian organ-grinders, of whom we arrested quite a number during the past month. The society in all its transactions in reference to children, brings them before the court having jurisdiction in the matter. If a complaint is made to us of any child being ill-used, we send an officer to investigate the case and see what can be done. If the child is very badly abused, we cause it to be taken away and put into an asylum or otherwise properly provided for. Children abandoned in the streets are likewise disposed of. We also give advice and information to all parties asking for it, relating to children, and a great many come to us for this purpose. When there is any offense committed against the child, like that of inducing a young girl to go into a house of ill-fame, we follow the case through to the end. We have caused many children to be sent to Randall's Island,* but we do not like to send them there."

During the short time the Society has been in existence it has done a large amount of humane work, a record of which will be found in its first annual report just issued. Seventy-two children have been disposed of at the instance of the Society, as follows:

| | |
|---|----|
| Homes found or situations obtained for..... | 8 |
| Stolen or lost children returned to parents..... | 11 |
| Sent to the Association for befriending Children and Young Girls..... | 1 |
| Sent to Commissioners of Charities and Corrections..... | 31 |
| Sent to N. Y. Roman Catholic Protectory..... | 11 |

* This statement was made before the Randall's Island Nursery was broken up.

| | |
|--|----|
| Sent to N. Y. Infant Asylum..... | 1 |
| Sent to N. Y. Juvenile Asylum. | 3 |
| Sent to Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum..... | 3 |
| Sent to St. Vincent's Home for Boys.... | 2 |
| Sent to Women's Aid Society and Home for Friendless Girls..... | 1 |
| Total..... | 72 |

The receipts of the Society have been from donations and dues of members, \$5,800; from other sources, \$198.24. The expenditures thus far have amounted to \$5,077.13.

THE NEW YORK SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF THE RUPTURED AND CRIPPLED.

New York.

The following report on this institution is kindly furnished by Commissioner Roosevelt, whose opportunities for frequent visitation give to it special value:

"The suggestion of this special form of organized charity was due to James Knight, M. D., of New York. In the winter of 1842, through his efforts, the first public clinics for cripples were held in the medical schools of this city, at which a large number were gratuitously treated. The relief thus obtained was, however, very limited, as no adequate provision was made for the free supply of suitable surgical appliances for the indigent patients, or for their proper diet or nursing. Deeply impressed with the existing necessity of an institution for the special treatment and cure of this large class of sufferers, Dr. Knight persistently and earnestly appealed to his fellow citizens on their behalf, but without any marked success until April, 1862. At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Association for the Relief of the Poor, held on that day, Dr. Knight appeared and presented orally and in writing the arguments and facts establishing the importance of this special organized relief. His appeal was successful, and steps were immediately taken to secure an organization for this object. In 1863, the dwelling-house of Dr. Knight, provided at his own expense with twenty-eight beds, and a workshop with all the implements required for the manufacture of surgical appliances for the patients, was hired by the Board of Managers for three years at a nominal rent. At the expiration of this time, the premises were purchased by the Society at a cost much less than the market value, and its operations were continued in this building until the completion of the new hospital building, corner of Lexington avenue and Forty-second street, in 1870. From the beginning, Dr. Knight superintended the institution as Resident Physician and Sur-

geon, residing in the house until it was sold for five thousand dollars more than the original cost; Mrs. Knight managing the domestic concerns of the establishment, and their daughter, most of the time, teaching the children without compensation. The late Mr. Jonathan Sturges, then Treasurer, in a paper on the progress of the institution, writes: "Dr. Knight has paid into the treasury every year from fees received from those able to pay, more than his salary, and has been instrumental in raising large sums for the purposes of the Society."

In the spring of 1867, five full lots were purchased on the corner of Lexington avenue and Forty-second street, and in June, 1868, the plans of the present hospital building were approved. Voluntary contributions to the amount of \$332,417 were made to pay for the cost of the new building; when it was completed and furnished there remained a surplus, which was invested for the support of the hospital. The hospital was completed and ready for the reception of patients in May, 1870. It occupies a lot of ground 175 by 100 feet, on the north-west corner of Lexington avenue and Forty-second street. The ground plan consists of a central parallelogram of 115 by 45 feet, to which are attached semi-circular wings of 22 feet radius at three angles of the central portion—two facing the south on Forty-second street, and one at the north-east angle on Lexington avenue. On the north-west angle is a rectangular wing 32 by 22 feet. In the central portion, rear of the building, is a space of equal dimensions to the north-west wing. Each ward occupies an entire floor, and has ample windows on all sides, and the projections at the angles of the building, in which are the nurses' rooms, bathing rooms, etc., are so rounded as not to cut off the sunshine from the windows of the wards.

A fire-proof staircase, communicating with every floor, is placed in a tower on the north side of the building. In the same tower is an elevator, by which the patients can be carried up to the wards, and from the wards to a play-room on the top of the building. This play-room is so constructed as to be open in summer, inclosed in winter, open to the sun on all sides, and yet shaded from it overhead. It is always dry, of an even temperature, airy and cheerful, and affords a beneficial change from the confinement of the lower wards. It is claimed that in this respect and in the ventilation of the wards, this hospital is equal, if not superior, to any other existing building for such uses.

The structure is of brick, with hollow walls, which aid in heating and ventilation. It is warmed by steam throughout, has four ample fire-places in each ward, and all the modern improvements and conveniences. The basement has a reception room for patients, retiring room, etc., besides kitchen, bakery, laundry, store-rooms, heaters, and a steam engine used for working the elevator and for various other domes-

tic purposes. The first floor affords suitable rooms for twenty private patients, and apartments for the resident physician. The second and third floors are occupied by wards, which have accommodations for two hundred patients, and the fourth by the play-room above described.

The certificate of incorporation of the society sets forth its object as follows, viz.:

"That the particular business and object of such society shall be to supply skillfully constructed surgico-mechanical appliances, and the treatment of in and out-door patients requiring trusses and spring supports, also bandages, lace stockings and other suitable apparatus for the relief and care of cripples, both adults and children, and, so far as possible, to make these benefits available to the poorest in the community."

All manner of curable cripples are treated in the institution. The required surgical appliances and apparatus, all manufactured on the premises, of the best materials, and in the least expensive manner, are gratuitously supplied to those unable to pay for the same. Healthful nourishment, perfect ventilation, personal cleanliness and amusement are principally relied upon as curative means, and these in a few days start new life in the most helpless cases. Medicines are administered when necessary. Surgical operations are limited mainly to the subcutaneous division of tendons for the relief of contorted limbs. Amusing exercises, adapted to promote physical energy or to relieve contractions and stiffened joints, are included in the system of treatment. The play-room on the top of the building is furnished with swings, in which the patients move by their own exertions, thus exercising their bodies and arms when deprived of the use of their lower limbs. A variety of gymnastic exercises or appliances are made available for the healthful recreation of the patients, under the direction of a professional gymnast.

"The following is an annual summary of the patients received and treated since the opening of the institution.

| | | | | |
|--|---|---|---------------------|--------------------|
| Number of patients treated from May, 1863, to May, 1864..... | | | | 828 |
| " | " | " | " 1864, " 1865..... | 961 |
| " | " | " | " 1865, " 1866..... | 1,454 |
| " | " | " | " 1866, " 1867..... | 1,684 |
| " | " | " | " 1867, " 1868..... | 2,018 |
| " | " | " | " 1868, " 1869..... | 2,395 |
| " | " | " | " 1869, " 1870..... | 2,507 |
| " | " | " | " 1870, " 1871..... | 2,721 |
| " | " | " | " 1871, " 1872..... | 3,306 |
| " | " | " | " 1872, " 1873..... | 4,023 |
| " | " | " | " 1873, " 1874..... | 4,634 |
| " | " | " | " 1874, " 1875..... | 5,023 |
| | | | | <hr/> 31,471 <hr/> |

Analysis and description of cases in regard to sex.

| | '63. | '64. | '65. | '66. | '67. | '68. | '69. | '70. | '71. | '72. | '73. | '74. |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Males | 529 | 524 | 840 | 971 | 1,108 | 1,315 | 1,515 | 1,615 | 1,881 | 2,310 | 2,707 | 2,858 |
| Females | 299 | 441 | 649 | 713 | 898 | 970 | 992 | 1,106 | 1,425 | 1,713 | 1,927 | 2,165 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | <u>31,471</u> |

Age of patients.

| | '63. | '64. | '65. | '66. | '67. | '68. | '69. | '70. | '71. | '72. | '73. | '74. |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Over 21 years.... | 432 | 465 | 730 | 811 | 910 | 1,116 | 1,326 | 1,411 | 1,750 | 2,216 | 2,606 | 2,788 |
| Between 14 and 21 years..... | 62 | 84 | 109 | 100 | 142 | 159 | 179 | 163 | 208 | 250 | 289 | 325 |
| Under 14 years.. | 334 | 416 | 650 | 773 | 954 | 1,010 | 1,002 | 1,147 | 1,348 | 1,557 | 1,739 | 1,910 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | <u>31,471</u> |

Out and In-patients relieved.

| | '63. | '64. | '65. | '66. | '67. | '68. | '69. | '70. | '71. | '72. | '73. | '74. |
|------------------------------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|
| Out-patients | 688 | 787 | 1,305 | 1,373 | 1,602 | 1,830 | 2,032 | 2,019 | 2,547 | 3,151 | 3,738 | 4,077 |
| In-patients.. ... | 30 | 32 | 32 | 35 | 25 | 26 | 26 | 72 | 99 | 127 | 104 | 115 |
| Out-patients (continued).... | 84 | 104 | 124 | 234 | 322 | 363 | 376 | 464 | 468 | 511 | 531 | 565 |
| In-patients (continued)..... | 20 | 26 | 21 | 24 | 26 | 26 | 26 | 107 | 125 | 163 | 174 | 177 |
| Incurable | 6 | 16 | 7 | 18 | 31 | 41 | 47 | 59 | 67 | 71 | 87 | 89 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | <u>31,471</u> |

"The city of New York pays at the rate of \$150.00 per annum for each indigent child in the hospital, which sum is quite inadequate to defray the expenses of even the *in-door* department of the institution. The balance of the outlay and the maintenance of the *out-door* or dispensary department, including the professional treatment of more than five thousand patients annually, and the supplying of these with the various surgical appliances necessary for their relief, are met by private contributions and the amount received from paying patients. Of the latter class but thirteen, at the date of October, 1875, paid; six of these, in full for board and surgical treatment, the remaining seven paying a trifling amount."

The number of children inmates, October 1, 1875, was one hundred and sixty-five. One hundred and twenty of these were of foreign parents, and forty-five of native. Eighteen of the number were orphans, and fifty-nine half-orphans.

The expenditures of the hospital during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, amounted to \$42,289. It has invested funds to the amount of \$129,000.

Dr. Knight, whose long experience and humane sympathies toward this suffering class render any thing emanating from him of special value, says :

"It is with feelings of gratitude to Divine favor, that we have been permitted so long to assist in the labors that have assuaged the sufferings of so vast a number of the indigent afflicted and others, that have availed themselves of our professional service, in all to the number of 31,471, during the past twelve years.

This is truly gratifying. But alas! a review of the past and of those associated in these beneficent labors, reminds us that we have to mourn the loss of one-fourth of the original Board of Managers, and our first President, who have been called home to their heavenly rest; two within the past year, of whom it may be truly said: 'And their good works do follow them.' They assisted most successfully in the establishing of what may now be considered one of the most extensive and most needed charities known of in this or any other country. With their assistance has been elaborated, by experience (there being no precedent), a most extensive and complete system, to the actual surprise of the public; demanding their support, as the most effectual and economical means of relieving suffering humanity from bodily infirmity and compulsory pauperism; who if not relieved tend to a consequent tax for their support, and in many instances during their lives—thus burdening the community at large, not only for the support of helpless crippled children, but of many children possessing their physical powers who are deprived of the support and care of their parents, from disenabling ailments relievable by surgico-mechanical appliances, that they are unable to purchase. Of these means of relief, there have been supplied 11,722 trusses, 3,655 laced stockings, 1,663 supporting belts, 2,383 braces for lateral curvatures and caries of spine, 1,311 clubfoot shoes, 1,067 springs for knock-knees and bow-legs, 1,311 steel supports for incurable paralyzed limbs, enabling, in many instances, the unfortunate helpless cripple to earn a living. This is an extraordinary amount of relief rendered by this institution during the past twelve years. These aids to labor were not furnished the poor previous to the organization of this Society, and their use continued by repair, all free of charge. The county had to take charge of the afflicted paralyzed children, and of parents until temporarily relieved by rest in the Charity Hospital—the latter persons being often detained several months during which period their children were left to lead a vagrant life, sweeping crosswalks, obtaining food at the Missions, in many instances becoming vicious paupers, and finally a charge on our reformatories or prisons as a protection to the public. This pitiable condition of the unfortunate cripple and of children deprived of parental care, is now alleviated by giving timely relief to adults and children at a comparatively very moderate expense, attainable at the Hospital for the Relief of the Ruptured and Crippled. The city and county fail to give this relief from any other source. Application is made from all parts of this State for surgical treatment, but it being impossible for this institution to supply the demand of the indigent cripples from this and other States, we have the painful duty of answering their letters with a refusal to render them the much needed relief. What greater boon can be conferred upon the industrious poor than to restore to them physical ability to labor and support their dependent families in respectability. A few dollars from individual or private charity, or a stay in the alms-house for several months, will not excite their pride and energy to maintain, or attempt to obtain a respectable position in the community. Their pride is seriously compromised when unavoidably reduced to that unfortunate condition of depending upon the industry of others for support.

From the following statement of a few cases of extraordinary cures made, an idea may be entertained of the amount of relief that is afforded to the indigent in the indoor department:

"F—W—, male, ten years of age, was admitted May 29, 1874, for the relief of club-foot of eight years' duration. Discharged July 10, 1874, walking with foot squarely on the floor. Cure complete.

"R—G—, male, twelve years of age, suffering from white swelling of knee joint, came under hospital treatment July 6, 1874. Discharged cured, July 17, 1874, having been under our treatment less than six weeks.

"B—G—, female, four years of age, came under treatment July 6, 1874, for white swelling in the acute stage. The knee was very much increased in size, and the pain was so great that the child was unable to stand. Within less than six months she was restored the use of her limb. The joint is natural in size, motion good, and general health fair. Now walks with an almost imperceptible limp.

"M—T—, female, aged eight years, was admitted July 21, 1874, for hip disease—second stage. Completely restored to the use of her limb, and discharged cured, December 10, 1874.

"C—B—, female, aged nine years, entered August 26, 1874. Ailment, club-foot of seven years' duration. Discharged cured, October 9, 1874.

"C—H—, female, nine years of age, admitted June 30, 1874, for disease of spinal cord, producing a most pitiable deformity of lower extremities. Suffered greatly, and could not even straighten her limbs. Cured in three months, and discharged October 18, 1874.

"D—W—, male, twelve years of age, came under treatment May 12, 1874, for white swelling of knee joint, of several months' standing. By the end of July following, discharged cured.

"L—S—, female, aged eleven years, came under treatment for white swelling of ankle joint of two years' standing, August 6, 1873. The case was unusually tedious, but in less than eight months she was completely restored, and discharged May 15, 1874, walking with perfect ease.

"M—L—, male, aged nine years, was admitted November 2, 1874, for the relief of hip disease. Relieved, and discharged cured January 26, 1875.

"N—O'K—, female, eight years of age, for several years paralyzed from caries of the spine, was admitted September 24, 1874. In less than three months restored to the use of her limbs.

"A—H—, female, thirteen years of age, entered hospital March 2, 1874, for the relief of white swelling of both knees, two years' standing. Discharged cured, August 18, 1874.

"F—J—, male, eleven years of age, came under treatment December 6, 1874, for disease of spinal cord with inability to stand. Completely restored in less than two months, and now walks and runs with perfect ease.

"M—K—, female, aged eight years, entered hospital August 27, 1873, suffering from hip disease—second stage. Tumor, simulating abscess, had formed, and the prospects for recovery were poor. After a long course of treatment the tumor disappeared, motion in joint returned, and the child was discharged October 15, 1874, walking freely, and with no sign of disease remaining.

"J—B—, male, thirteen years of age, was admitted October 30, 1873, suffering from paralysis of lower extremities, produced by a fall through a hatch way, fracturing spinal column about the middle. Completely restored to the use of his limbs, and discharged June 12, 1874."

NURSERY AND CHILD'S HOSPITAL.

New York.

The field of charity covered by the Nursery and Child's Hospital is very extensive.

Its objects are "the maintenance and care of the children of wet-nurses, and the daily charge of infants whose parents labor away from home, and also the care of lying-in women and foundlings. The institution was organized and incorporated on the 19th of April, 1854. Its sources of income are thus stated by the First Directress, Mrs. Cornelius Du Bois: "The board of some of the children; the subscriptions and donations; the Charity Ball and the per capita allowance the law allows us, enable us to provide liberally, but not extravagantly, for our inmates."

The circumstance which led to its establishment illustrates so aptly the necessity for its existence, and the warm Christian charity to which its inception is due, that it is considered not out of place to relate it here, although to many it is doubtless familiar.

"On the 5th of February, 1854, two ladies of this city were conversing about the great suffering among the poor; one of them, who had long been a manager of the Marion Street Lying-in Asylum, spoke of the miseries of infants, of their neglect, and of the suffering mothers, whose poverty forced them to give the nourishment intended for their own infants to the children of the rich. She told the following story: 'A well known monthly nurse called to see a lady whom she had attended, and while looking at her infant was surprised to find its wet-nurse in tears. On expressing her wonder that one surrounded with every comfort should grieve, the poor nurse replied: "It is just that which makes me cry, for see what a good bed, good meals, and comfortable fire I have got, while my own dear child may be starving or freezing." On being asked why she did not see it, she replied: "I have promised the lady with whom I live never to do so as long as I am nursing her child, and I have extra wages on that account." Extreme poverty had induced her to make this promise. The nurse, a good woman, volunteered to go and see her child, and hastily taking the address, went at night-time to a small, dirty basement room, where she found a sick woman lying on a miserable bed, who, on being asked for "the baby," said, "My baby died yesterday, of small-pox." "And where is the nurse's baby?" asked the visitor. "Oh, if it's that you want, here it is," and the woman, leaning over, drew from under her bed a basket of soiled clothes, among which lay the child, whose mother might well weep for its utter wretchedness, neglect and danger. The visitor stripped every rag from its little squalid body, and wrapped it in her own shawl, took it to her own home, bathed and dressed it, sent for a physician, and had it vaccinated that same night, and by the blessing of God the child was saved from the loathsome disease to which it had been exposed, and from that death which was most certainly at hand.'"

To this child the present Nursery and Child's Hospital owes its origin and success, for this story was told to one who had been blessed with many children of her own, who had known the care they re-

quired, even when in good health, who had watched the sick beds, and closed the eyes of many who had been taken to happier homes; and this sad story awakened in that true woman's bosom a chord which can never cease to vibrate, while the infant needs a home, or there are sick children who claim her care and sympathy.

The Nursery and Child's Hospital, founded by Mrs. Du Bois, is at the corner of Lexington avenue and Fifty-first street, and was intended to prevent the frightful mortality among infants, particularly among the children of wet-nurses. The idea that the children of the poor were sacrificed for those of the wealthy classes, was so repugnant to the maternal instincts of one who had lost four out of ten of her own dear ones, though surrounded with every comfort and care, that she desired to provide, for the poor little neglected children, a shelter, where at least they should not suffer from want. The effort was made, and, it is asserted, so great has been its success, that the mortality among this class of children has been diminished from between eighty-six and ninety, to between ten and fifteen per cent.

The city Nursery, at the corner of Lexington avenue and Fifty-first street, is a large building, having beds for three hundred and sixty inmates, and hospitable accessories. No children over four years of age are left in the city, but are transferred to the Country Branch. In the city Nursery there is a large Lying-in Asylum, which is always full. If a woman applies for care during her confinement, and has other children unprovided for, the whole family is transferred to the Country Branch Nursery and Lying-in Asylum; also all who are not expecting confinement within two weeks of admission. "This enables the married woman to extend her maternal care to her family, till her hour of illness. It also provides a shelter for the erring, where they can be under proper religious influences, and preserved from the desperate resources formerly so common, to hide their shame by suicide, abortion or infanticide. They are required to bring evidence of former good character, and when they have been long enough in the institution to entitle them to a good recommendation, places are provided for them, and their infants are kept."

The following particulars, regarding the history and workings of the institution, were obtained from a lady long identified with the work.

"In February, 1854, three weeks after the first idea of a Nursery was conceived, \$10,000 was collected by personal exertions. On the first of May following, the house in St. Mark's place was opened, and so great was the demand for places that every bed was full in less than a week. Overcrowding was the result. It seemed impossible to refuse miserable, starved and drugged infants, though it was evident nothing could save them. Still they died in a comfortable home, and for a time that seemed to be our best encouragement. But as we learned

the economy of charity, we began to save lives, and now we have learned by many instructive lessons that infant mortality among the poor with us is not necessarily larger than in ordinary private families among all classes.

"We hope to improve still more, and rejoice in being able by our dearly bought experience to encourage others in all parts of our country who constantly appeal to us for our rules and results. From Canada to Florida, nurseries have been commenced, taking the New York Nursery and Child's Hospital for their guide, and in Calcutta one is flourishing bearing our name and following our footsteps.

"Wet nurses obtain high wages, and their babies are received by us on payment of \$10 a month for board. Mothers are expected to pay as far as able for our care of their children, but there are so many willing to take them in private families, that we generally have the destitute who would otherwise go to the alms-house. We try to keep families together instead of separating them, as they do at alms-houses.

"The mothers are required to work, and are glad to do so if allowed to keep their children with them. This saves many mothers from pauperism."

At the date of visitation, October 9, we found fifteen children in the lying-in ward of the City Branch, corner of Lexington avenue and Fifty-first street, and one hundred and eighty-three in the nursery department. These children, we were informed, are at the age of four removed to Staten Island, to what is called the Country Branch of the Nursery and Child's Hospital at West New Brighton.

The medical department of the institution is under the care of the Resident Physician, Dr. Beckwith, to whom we are indebted for the following information: "The house is under the charge of a Matron. In the lying-in ward are three nurses. The children's ward has two divisions, the larger one attended by three nurses and the smaller one by two. Thirty-eight domestics are employed, including cooks, laundresses, ironers, etc. We have fifty women, each nursing two children. Of these, six or eight are usually paid, but the remuneration is small. The women who nurse two children have generally one of their own, and nurse another with it. Then we have thirty other women who nurse their own children and take care of others. They have just enough milk to nurse their own children. Every woman is obliged to nurse her own child while she remains in the institution. If she wishes to leave it here to board, she pays for it, but she has to wait till we get a wet nurse to take her place. We have no bottle feeding. I think it is better to partially nurse them. If they get sick, they can give them nothing else.

"The city allows \$10 a month for such children as have no friends able to pay for them. Children are taken in at any time. Applica-

tions for admittance are generally made at the Hospital. But unmarried women are taken only for their first child, and they have to bring references from some one who knows them. Married women come and go at any time. Quite a number of married women come in now, too poor to stay at home."

The Nursery department was found to be very pleasant and well lighted, having windows on three sides, and flue ventilation to some extent. The beds and cribs are arranged around the room so that a bed for the mother and a crib, capable of accommodating two infants, are placed side by side. The cribs, two feet by six, were protected by mosquito nets over an iron frame. The iron bedsteads for the mothers were three feet wide. Hair and straw mattresses were used. The Doctor thinks children should not be weaned till they are fourteen months old.

The "waiting room" is a large apartment, furnished with iron bedsteads. While awaiting confinement, the women utilize their time by sewing, but their labor is not of much value.

The ward for the women who have just been confined is furnished with single iron bedsteads of good width. Wire-woven mattress bedsteads are used. These beds, the Doctor says, have been used for three and a half years constantly, and have not "sagged." They cost \$16.50. The mattress can be fitted to any iron frame bedstead.

Most of the children born in the institution, the Doctor thinks, are the children of the "unfortunate" class. The dietary furnished is of a very nutritious character.

In the children's department we were greeted by a flock of little children quite happy, and crying out for candy. A number of little hands were held forth to receive the contents of our pockets in such a manner as gave birth to the suspicion that there was some good soul a frequent visitor, more thoughtful than ourselves.

The room was furnished with little tables and chairs, and was very clean, and the children showed good care.

The children of Protestant parents are baptized in the institution as occasion offers, and the children of Catholic parents are permitted at all times to be taken out and baptized in accordance with the faith of their church.

The chapel of the institution contains a reading desk, organ, etc. Services are held here every Sunday afternoon and Thursday evening.

The walls of the house are painted in a soft tint. The heating is effected by furnaces. The water supply from the city is abundant. The bathing arrangements are ample. The house seemed nearly filled to its capacity.

The Country Branch, is located in Middletown, three miles from the post-office at West New Brighton, on a highly elevated site, com-

manding a view of the Kills, Newark bay and the country around. It includes forty-eight acres of ground, on which are a large and commodious house, used as a Lying-in Asylum and Hospital for Children, another large house with a capacity for one hundred inmates and fourteen cottages, each capable of sheltering from twelve to thirty-six inmates. These are arranged in such a manner that all are under surveillance of the matron and two lady physicians. Each cottage has its head, who reports instantly any change observed in the health of the inmates.

Quarantine arrangements are easily made by means of these separate cottages. If, in the Lying-in Asylum in the city, puerperal fever appears, the waiting women are transferred to the Country Branch. This prevents the disease from spreading, but the original idea of the Nursery on Staten Island was to give change of air to children with cholera infantum and kindred diseases. The terrible mortality among infants, and the means to prevent it, have always been subjects of deep interest to the philanthropist.

Each year, in the Nursery and Child's Hospital, the mortality has been steadily decreasing, but the havoc of cholera infantum it seemed impossible to arrest till the experiment was made of sending the infants, who appeared incurable, across the bay to a small hospital hastily improvised for their reception on Staten Island. Here, under the daily supervision of Mrs. Du Bois, many recovered who had been admitted in an apparently dying condition. The success of this experiment led to the purchasing, in 1870, of the present beautiful and commodious country hospital, which was immediately filled with delicate and sickly children. The cottages subsequently built are two stories high, and so arranged that the upper story can be entirely disconnected from the lower by staircase and separate entrance. Fenestrals are so placed that no dampness can accumulate underneath. One long window is so situated on each side of each ward, that the floors may be flushed with fresh air when needed. Open fire-places and transoms over every door furnish good ventilation. Radiating stoves are used in very cold weather. Various disinfectants, necessary for sewers and out-houses, are freely used, and a thorough system of deep tile drainage adds to the sanitary condition of the place.

A small and tasteful building near the gate is called the dispensary, and is in charge of Dr. Helen M. Betts, assistant lady physician. It is intended to accommodate outside patients. Poor people, in addition to those in the nursery, are supplied with medicine from here gratuitously, but those who are able to pay are charged.

A school is held on the premises and two others in the village. There are several boarding-houses in the village, in which about one hundred and twenty children are boarded, and are under the super-

vision of the nursery. No child, over five years of age, is kept at the nursery.

In the ward for the sick, in the main building, were six inmates. Two lady nurses, from Bellevue Training School, were acquiring experience in their profession here under the superintendence of Dr. E. E. Judson, the resident lady physician of the nursery.

The cottages were at first found to be cold in winter, but by means of plastering, this defect was remedied and they were with greater ease kept free from vermin. They are frame buildings, lined with pine, with black walnut moldings, and although cheaply and strongly constructed, they are, nevertheless, very tasteful.

The water supply is procured from a spring. A steam engine forces it to every building. Ample provision is made for bathing.

One of the cottages is used for a chapel, where services are held morning and evening.

Another of the cottages, inclosed with sash, is designated the Sanitarium, affording a play-room fully large enough for one hundred children.

In connection with the institution is a large garden, supplying all the vegetables.

The total expenditures of the Nursery and Child's Hospital, during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, amounted to \$118,851.19, of which sum nearly \$23,000 were for buildings and improvements. Its invested fund was set down at \$6,000, and its total indebtedness at \$13,203.88.

The following are some of the views of Mrs. Du Bois, the results of her large experience in this work, which are recorded for general information.

Mrs. Du Bois believes that, as a rule, infants who are wet-nursed should be in an institution, because there the ventilation is better attended to, the earliest indication of disease noticed more quickly, the food given more regularly and of a better and more nourishing kind than in families, but at three years of age children are better off in private families if watched by visiting agents. Many families will care for the children faithfully without watching, but as a rule it is necessary for every cottager to feel that some one takes an interest in the children. No child should ever be in an alms-house. Physical and moral degradation ensues. The children of drunkards should not be allowed to remain with their parents. Much vice would be saved if mothers knew they would be separated from their children if they did not reform and take better care of them. The law on this point is now very defective.

"Children at three years should be taught on the *Kindergarten* system enough to amuse their minds and keep their bodies exercised.

For infants under eight months, wet-nurses are indispensable; if not to be obtained, then the former rule does not apply, but they should be placed singly in private families, to be bottle or spoon-fed. Institutions cannot save many bottle-fed babies, though every year the result of present efforts in that direction is more encouraging.

"The Nursery is so full that we are glad to have good places at the West found for children, as they get old enough, by the Children's Aid Society. The Home for the Friendless takes many very young children, who are adopted, and great care is taken to place them in Christian families well known to the managers. But as long as they remain with us they are well taught and made useful on the farm or in the house.

"We have one hundred and fifty children boarded out in families on Staten Island, and at present there are two hundred on our grounds and in cottages. Our number of women and children in the city and country institutions varies from seven hundred and fifty to eight hundred. While it is necessary to have a nursery in New York as a receiving house and as a refuge for those whose parents are obliged to be near the city, it is all-important that children should as soon as possible be transferred to the pure air of the country and given the fresh cows' milk so easily procured there."

Although an efficient force of wise workers are engaged in this institution, its growth and success must be attributed mainly to the large comprehension and executive capacity of its first directress, Mrs. Cornelius Du Bois. The time will come when its management must be committed to other hands. It having been demonstrated by her, however, what may be accomplished in this direction, it is believed that this great charity rests upon so sure a foundation that its work will go on, an enduring monument to a most noble character.

THE ORPHAN ASYLUM SOCIETY IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

New York.

A very brief outline of the history of this old and well established charity can only be given, it being too lengthy to be fully detailed here. "Prior to March, 1806," says one of the officers of the Orphan Asylum, "when the Society was organized, the Society for the Relief of Widows with Small Children was the only existing charitable organization for the care of children in New York. A few of the destitute orphans of those widows were collected by Mrs. Isabella Graham, and to provide a permanent home for these, 'The Orphan Asylum Society in the City of New York' was established. The first house used for

this purpose was hired in Rasin street, Greenwich, and during the first six months twelve orphan children found there a home, a suitable man and his wife taking charge and instructing them. In January, 1807, the First Directress, Mrs. Sarah Hoffman, with the consent of the Board of Trustees, adopted the plan of a constitution, and the Legislature granted the petition for its incorporation. The first annual meeting was held at the City Hotel, April 2, 1807, on which occasion twenty orphans, then inmates of the Asylum, were presented to the friends who had shown an interest in them. On July 7, 1807, was laid the corner-stone of the first asylum building to be erected on four lots of ground in Greenwich village; thence the children were removed to their present home in 1839-40, the number amounting to one hundred and sixty-five. The Society had at first to struggle through many years of debt and dependence on the liberality of its friends; afterward, however, subscribers increased, legacies were founded, and the nucleus of an income was formed. Mrs. Isabella Graham and her daughter, Mrs. Bethune, Mrs. Sarah Hoffman and Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton, were among the first projectors of this good work."

The asylum building is a three-story brick structure, with two wings, and has a capacity for two hundred and twenty-five children. The main building was erected in 1836, and the wings in 1855, but during 1874 the whole was remodeled, painted and frescoed. The building is heated by steam, lighted by gas, and supplied with water from the city. It has good sewerage. The ventilation is by flues in the walls. The window sash, containing lozenge-shaped panes, are hung with cord, weights and pulleys.

The institution is located on Seventy-third street and Eleventh avenue. It faces the Hudson river. A belt of the City Riverside Park intervenes between it and the bank.

It is governed by a Board of Lady Managers, who have associated with them an advisory Board of Gentlemen. The immediate charge is committed to a superintendent. The force associated with him includes each a matron for both boys' and girls' departments; a gentleman teacher, with an assistant; two lady teachers; a lady in charge of the nursery; a "sick-nurse"; a housekeeper, engineer, and six or eight domestics.

There were in the institution, at the date of visitation, October 11, one hundred and eighty-four inmates, of whom sixty-nine were girls.

The following information was obtained from the Superintendent in charge, Mr. George E. Dunlap:

Children of both sexes, orphans, half-orphans and destitute children generally are received, without regard to their religion. They are admitted at all ages up to ten, but not before they are weaned, a nursery being in the Asylum for the younger children. They remain till

the age of fourteen, when they are placed out by indenture. The children apprenticed are not lost sight of, but are visited or written to at least once a year.

The schools are in the wings of the building, the boys occupying one, and the girls the other. They are furnished with patent seats, and the usual school appliances. The children receive a common English education, and are trained to industrious habits. They are carefully instructed in religious truths.

In the dining room the boys occupy one side and the girls the other. The children sit on stools. Table cloths, crockery ware, knives, forks and spoons are used.

It is designed that every inmate shall have a towel, brush and comb. The latter are kept in a large cupboard divided into compartments. Each compartment contains a hair-brush, comb and tooth-brush. The arrangements for both boys and girls in this respect are the same.

Each of the two bath rooms is furnished with twelve bath tubs. The boys' hair is cut tolerably close. On two of the floors in each wing are lavatories with eight wash-bowls. The children wash in running water. Night closets are in the hall connected with the sleeping rooms.

In regard to the character of the employes the Superintendent says: "Women that have children in the house are not employed as domestics."

In the dormitories are single iron bedsteads, straw beds and feather pillows. The bedsteads are two feet three inches wide.

At the end of each wing is a stairway approached from within and without, giving egress from each floor of the wing, and access to a room one story higher than the wing, used for infirmary purposes when needed, and affording complete isolation from all the other inmates.

The location, commanding as it does, a full view of the grand scenery of the Hudson, is delightful. The grounds are being improved. A great elm tree stands near the door of the main entrance to the Asylum, on the easterly side, and its huge bole is a favorite rendezvous for the children.

The early history of this charity shows that it was not exempt from the financial trials to which many similar institutions are now subjected, but it persevered amid discouragements, and its work made its silent impression on the mind of the benevolent man of business pursuing his daily routine, and the fruits are seen in the liberal bequests that have been made to it from time to time. It is now a wealthy corporation. The value of its real estate is set down at \$600,000, its invested funds at \$199,000. Its expenditures during the last year were \$71,661, of which \$31,961 was for improvements upon buildings.

The number of children that have been inmates of this Asylum since its beginning is two thousand one hundred and twenty-three. The

number in the institution October 1, 1875, was one hundred and eighty-five. Of these ninety-three were orphans, seventy-nine half-orphans, two had both parents living, and of eleven it was uncertain whether they had parents living or not. Forty-five were of native parentage, and one hundred and twenty of foreign. The parentage of twenty was unknown. The whole number of children received during the year was sixty, and the number discharged thirty. Of these fifteen were placed out by indenture, eleven were returned to parents or guardians, one was transferred to another institution, and three died. The number of the boys October 1, was one hundred and sixteen, girls sixty-nine.

The spirit with which the successful workers of this Society were imbued, is illustrated in the text prefacing a copy of their constitution.

"Among the afflicted of our suffering race none makes a stronger or more impressive appeal to humanity than the destitute orphan. Crime has not been the cause of its misery — and future usefulness may yet be the result of its protection. The reverse is often the case of more aged objects.

"God himself has marked the fatherless as the peculiar subjects of His divine compassion. 'A father of the fatherless is God in his holy habitation.' 'When my father and my mother forsake me, then the Lord will take me up.' To be the blessed instrument of divine Providence in making good the promise of God, is a privilege equally desirable and honorable to the benevolent heart."

An interesting feature of this institution is the place that has been set apart for the purposes of prayer and praise. The walls of the old yet beautiful chapel, hallowed by interesting associations of the past, are eloquent with the generous deeds of noble natures that long since have rested from their labors. The visitor's eye is here arrested by numerous memorial tablets and records of legacies, which the trustees of the institution have here placed "in grateful remembrance." These inscriptions, seen in the golden sunset light of an autumn evening, are given at some pains, for like illuminated manuscripts of the olden time, they tell of the Asylum's history and its work:

"Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Isabella Graham, who died 27th July, 1811, and of Mrs. Sarah Hoffman, who died 29th July, 1821. They were both founders of this institution. To their prayer of faith and wisdom in directing its affairs, the society is indebted for much of the success that has attended it. They were lovely in their lives, and during many years they traveled together the walks of charity. 'When the ear heard them, it blessed them, and they caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.' They now rest from their labors, partakers of the blessedness of those that die in the Lord. 'Their works do follow them.'"

"Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Joanna Bethune, who was one of the originators of the plan of this institution, and the last survivor of its founders. For fifty years she gave to her beloved orphans the best energies of her mind and heart; her prayers and efforts never wearied nor flagged; and it was only at the

advanced age of 87 years that she withdrew from active co-operation in their behalf. She died July 28, 1860, aged 92 years."

"Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth Hamilton, widow of Gen. Alexander Hamilton. She was one of the founders of this institution, and during 43 years watched over its interests with untiring devotion. She presided as its first directress for 27 years, and only resigned that office on her removal to Washington city, where she died, November 9, 1854, at the advanced age of 97 years."

"In grateful remembrance of Mrs. Sarah Startin, one of the founders of this institution, for many years its Treasurer, and, while she lived, a most liberal contributor. She bequeathed a legacy of \$100."

"In grateful remembrance of Charles Leroux, the first testator who remembered this institution, and in 1811 bequeathed a legacy of \$250."

"This tablet is erected in grateful remembrance of Philip Jacobs, who died 1818, and bequeathed to this institution property of a large amount. Considerable expense was incurred in defending suits brought by other claimants, and not until the year 1832 was his intention fulfilled, and the society put in possession of real estate valued at \$75,000, the rents of which only are expended. Thus, while the legacies of other benevolent individuals have been necessarily employed in supporting the institution, for Philip Jacobs was reserved the honor of establishing a permanent fund. An Israelite by birth and education, the despised Nazarene became his Saviour, and dying in the faith of Jesus he bequeathed his property to feed His lambs."

"In memory of Thomas Dickson, to whom, for 54 years, this asylum was a home. Though deaf and dumb, he cheerfully bore his cross, and by patient effort became a worthy, useful employee of this institution; and as a token of his love, bequeathed to it the earnings of his life, amounting to \$3,612."

"Sacred to the memory of Capt. Henry McKavitt. He was reared in this institution, graduated at West Point, and died in the service of his country at the battle of Monterey, September, 1846. He bequeathed all his property to this asylum. Also of Elizabeth Davis, who was reared in this institution, and in 1857 bequeathed to it her all, amounting to \$57."

"This tablet is erected in grateful remembrance of James P. Van Horne, whose life-long interest in this asylum was followed by a generous bequest of \$35,000. Also, of Mary E. C. Van Horne, his wife, who, after 44 years of untiring labor as a trustee, at her death bequeathed to this institution \$20,000."

These marble tablets record the following legacies:

Mrs. Sarah B. Loftus, \$1,400; Mrs. McKenzie, \$1,400; Robert Hodge, "one of the first benefactors of this institution," \$2,875; Jacob Sherred, "a liberal contributor to this institution while he lived," \$5,000; James Thomson, \$5,000; Miss Pyne, \$500; Thomas Tom, \$250; Mrs. Mary McCrea, \$250; Mrs. Walmsley, \$250; James R. Smith, \$250; Mrs. McAdam, \$250; Mrs. James McEvers, \$250; Mrs. Douglas, \$250; Mrs. Wilkes, \$250; Thomas Allen, \$4,000; John Murray, \$300; Mrs. Judith Bruce, \$100; Mrs. Ann B. Pollock, \$100; Mrs. Clarkson, \$100; Mrs. Mary Perkins, \$100; Mrs. C. Depeyster, \$50; John Stanford, \$30; Joseph Barber, "a soldier of Tampa Bay, who left all his property, amounting to \$57"; John Van Blarcom, \$500; Joseph Watkins, \$500; Edmund Seaman, \$500; Daniel McCormick, \$500; Rachel Vanderbeck, \$500; "Doctor John Austin, late of Demerara," \$500; Alexander S. Glass, \$300; Mrs. Charlotte Ablin, \$388; Samuel Milligan, \$125; A. Craig, \$25; Mrs. Stansbury, \$750; Colonel Rutgers, \$1,000; "Mrs. Doctor Pendleton, one of the first subscribers and patronesses of this institution," \$5,000; Captain Miles Burke, \$15,000; Miss Mary Ludlow, "long a sub-

scriber to this institution," \$2,500; John Johnston, \$1,000; Mr. Tinkney, \$800; Miss Sarah Penny, \$500; Mrs. Lyell, "of Freehold, N. J.," \$500; James McBride, \$500; Miss Mary Walton, \$300; Mrs. Sarah Wagstaff, \$250; Miss Frances Ludlow, \$200; Mrs. Jane Ann Ferris, \$200; Miss Eleanor Coffee, \$150; Mrs. Mary Parkinson, "of Poughkeepsie," \$100; Mrs. James Boggs, \$100; John H. Keyser, \$100; Mrs. Louisa S. Trevor, \$1,000; Mr. Lispenard Stewart, \$300; Miss Esther Allee, \$200; Mrs. Elizabeth B. Stewart, \$300; Mrs. Elizabeth Rutgers, \$500; Mr. Charles O'Neil, \$1,000; Mr. William Forgay, \$1,000; Miss Mary Hassell, \$2,543; Mrs. Martha Ritchie, \$1,000; Miss Jane Hyslop, \$500; Mrs. Mary A. Varnum, \$5,000; Mrs. Augusta Bibby, \$1,000; Mr. Caleb Swan, \$500; Miss Elizabeth Demilt, \$3,000; Miss Margaret A. Prall, \$3,000; Miss Eliza Chapman, \$3,000; William Howel, \$1,500; John Vernon, \$1,500; Samuel S. Howland, \$1,500; Mrs. Harriet Howel, \$1,500; Gardiner Howland, \$1,000; John Morrison, \$1,000; Mrs. Jane Clarkson, \$5,000; John Horsburg, \$5,000; Mrs. Sarah Skates, \$4,050; Thomas F. Thompson, \$4,000; John Noble, \$2,000; John Grey, \$3,000; James Murray, \$9,303; Miss Elizabeth Gelston, \$1,000; Mrs. Matilda Parsons, \$500; Mr. Peter G. Arcularius, \$1,000; Mr. S. V. Sickles, \$12,729; Miss Rosamond Miller, \$1,000; Mrs. Henry Andrew, \$500; Mrs. Ann Wood, \$500; Miss Eliza Fogan, \$21; Mr. Thomas Riley, \$5,639; Miss Cornelia Bingham, \$400; Mr. Thomas Egleston, \$2,000; Mrs. Sarah A. Riley, \$100; Mr. W. E. Saunders, \$500; Mr. Robert C. Goodhue, \$1,000; Mrs. Ann Currie, \$500; Mr. Pelatiah Perit, \$1,000; Madame Martelle, \$4,500; Mr. William Willis, \$100; Mr. William Kinch, \$500; Miss Julia Camman, \$280; Madame Jumel, \$5,000; Mr. James B. Murray, \$1,000; donation from Messrs. Chauncey and Henry Rose, "from estate of the late John Rose," \$16,000.

ORPHANS' HOME AND ASYLUM OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL
CHURCH IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

New York.

Those familiar with the growth of this large charity state the following particulars in regard to its history: "The institution originated in 1851, in an effort on the part of some Christian ladies to fulfill the dying request of a father, that his children might be brought up under the care and training of the Protestant Episcopal Church, into which they had been baptized in infancy. As no church home then existed in the city, a room was hired in Renwick street, and a person engaged to take care of the children, at the expense of these ladies and other members of St. Paul's Chapel in New York. Under the care of the late Rt. Rev. Bishop Wainwright, Rev. John K. Hobart, D. D., and subsequently of the late Rev. Dr. Hanks, the undertaking grew into an Orphan Home of the Protestant Episcopal Church. After two years it was removed to Hammond street, the number of inmates increasing gradually from two to sixty. In 1857 two small houses in Thirty-ninth street were hired, and immediate efforts were made to obtain funds for the erection of a suitable building, which was not accomplished till 1861. The institution was incorporated in 1859

The means of support, from the beginning up to the present time, have been church collections, annual subscriptions, voluntary donations, and a payment on the part of some of the children's friends, of seventy-five cents a week. Legacies are devoted to the creation of a permanent fund."

The Home is situated on the south-west corner of Forty-ninth street and Lexington avenue, in the city of New York. It is governed by a Board of Lady Managers, representing nearly all the Protestant Episcopal churches in the city, and an advisory committee, composed of four clergymen and four laymen, the Bishop of the Diocese being President. The immediate charge of the asylum is committed to a matron. There are also employed by the institution three resident teachers, a nurse, a cook, a laundress, a seamstress and a fireman. Both girls and boys are received, not younger than three, and not older than eight years.

The asylum edifice is a large three story brick structure, with mansard roof. A wing, two stories high, was erected in 1867, the upper part of which is used as an infirmary. The main building is one hundred feet by fifty, and on the upper floors on each side are the dormitories for boys and girls, matron's room, and rooms for the nurse and teachers. The next story contains school, dining and committee rooms, also a parlor. The basement is used for children's dining room, play-room, kitchen and laundry. The house is heated by two furnaces, and stoves are also used in the school-rooms. Careful provision has been made for the ventilating and sunning of the rooms.

On the day of visitation, October 8th, the Asylum was found to be in charge of Mrs. Jane Inglee, Matron, to whom we are indebted for the following information:

"We receive orphans and half-orphans. If full orphans, we take them older than eight years. None of the children are supported by the city, and there are but few even partially supported by parents. When we place children out, we never lose sight of them, till they are of age. We have a committee of ladies to visit them. Those that are placed out by their parents are at their disposal. We do not send children to the West, nor any farther than we can look after them. We do not bind out any children. We place a child out, allowing a person to take it on trial for three months. We had one case, where they became dissatisfied with the child, and we took it back. I have been connected with the institution from the first — twenty-two years ago. The children turn out well. We have some who are now married, and settled very well. We have some in New York in business — two on Wall street, and one a clergyman in the Protestant Episcopal Church. We teach the children household work, to sweep, dust, sew,

wash and cook. We have a sewing room, and the children go up every day for an hour, and are instructed in sewing; even the smaller ones are taught in the sewing room."

One of the large rooms in the house is set apart for the use of the ladies, who meet every Friday to sew for the children. The house is furnished throughout with inside blinds. The school department is divided by means of folding doors into two rooms. The girls are taught in one room, and the boys in the other.

The girls' dormitory is a pleasant room, and was found to be very clean. It can be well aired, and exposed to the sun, having windows on three sides. It is furnished with single iron bedsteads, two feet seven inches wide. The beds were well supplied with clothing. The children sleep without pillows.

The washing room connected with this dormitory is fitted up with twelve marble-top wash stands, and two bath tubs. Water closets adjoin it.

The infirmary department is a very interesting feature of the institution. It is complete in itself, and shut off from the rest of the house. The clothing, crockery and other appurtenances belonging to this department are kept entirely separate. In the convalescent room there were three beds, a little rocking chair, and smaller chairs. Beside each bed was a little table having a drawer. The sick room is furnished with all the conveniences of such an apartment. By means of a dumb waiter it is brought into communication with the kitchen below.

The Matron says: "We had one death during the past year, the only one which has occurred in eight years."

The upper dormitory, for girls, is a room furnished similarly to the one first visited. The nursery accommodates thirty-two beds. The boys' dormitory is furnished likewise with iron bedsteads.

In the dining room the children stand while eating, the boys at one side, the girls at the other. This room contains a high chair for the Matron or teacher to overlook the children while at their meals. In this apartment we found four little girls washing dishes, and one sweeping. The Matron stated that no benches or chairs were used except for the very little ones.

Adjoining the dining room is the boys' play-room, used in stormy weather, and on the opposite side is the play room for girls. On the day of visitation there were in the Asylum one hundred and thirty-eight children, sixty-three of whom were boys. The institution was found to be managed with great prudence, and it is believed to be accomplishing a good work. The arrangements for caring for the sick are very humane, and, as has been seen, are attended with very gratifying results. The provision for the health and comfort of the inmates was so generous, and the appointments of the institution generally

were so complete, that the absence of seats for the children in the dining room, and of pillows upon the beds, was more noticeable than it would have been otherwise.

Since its organization about eight hundred children have shared the benefactions of this charity. No returns are at hand embodying statistical information relating to the work of the past year.

ROMAN CATHOLIC ORPHAN ASYLUM IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.
New York.

This charity ranks among the first of its class in importance in the city of New York. Under its sheltering aegis, and that of the societies out of which it grew, numberless orphan and destitute children have been protected from the adverse storms of life. It has always included in its working force, aside from the gentlemen comprising its Board of Managers, a large number of *Religieuses*, who have devoted themselves to the furtherance of its objects, and who at the present time are giving the best portion of their lives to its labors. It is impossible to arrive at any correct estimate of the total number of children that have been received by it since its organization, and who through its agencies have been fitted for respectable and useful positions in society; but the number is very large, as will be seen from the fact that the number admitted during the five years preceding and including 1874, was one thousand one hundred and seventy-nine.

The Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum was organized in 1817, and incorporated by an act of the Legislature in April of the same year, under the name of the "Roman Catholic Benevolent Society." Its location was the same as that of the present Asylum, on Prince street, and the children were under the care of the Sisters of Charity. At the date of April 13, 1852, the above society was reorganized and "The Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum in the city of New York," was incorporated for the purpose of consolidating under one management the several societies having the care of children that were then being conducted under Roman Catholic auspices.

Those most familiar with the institution state the following regarding its early history: "The societies which have preceded ours were set on foot under the pressure of scanty means and difficulties of all kinds, and had little time for chronicling passing events. Consequently there are but meagre records of their histories. Cornelius Heney, who gave the building on the corner of Mott and Prince streets, and the site of the same, is the earliest and most noted benefactor of the institution."

The corporate powers of the institution are exercised by a Board of

twenty-five Managers, twenty-four of whom are elected by ballot of the members. One-third of the number are chosen yearly. "Any person contributing the sum of \$3 annually shall be a member of said corporation. The Most Rev. Archbishop or Ordinary of the Diocese of New York shall be President of the Society."

"The objects of this Society are to provide for destitute and unprotected orphan and half-orphan children of both sexes, and to educate them in the Roman Catholic faith." A committee have charge of the admission of the children into the Asylum, and the binding of them out at a proper age. They are governed by the following rules: "No child shall be received by them under the age of four or over nine years. When children are bound out, it shall be done according to law, and the committee shall in every case be satisfied not only that the master or mistress will treat them kindly, but that they shall be brought up as Catholics, and they shall in all cases give preference to the admission of full orphans. They shall meet twice a month."

The Asylum has also a visiting committee of five members, who meet monthly, and whose duty it is to visit, or see that they are visited, from time to time, all male and female orphans and half-orphans, bound out in the city by the Society, for the purpose of protecting and advising them.

This corporation controls and directs the affairs of the following institutions: The Female Orphan Asylum, Prince street, corner of Mott; The Male Orphan Asylum, Fifth avenue, between Fifty-first and Fifty-second streets; The Female Orphan Asylum, Madison avenue, between Fifty-first and Fifty-second streets; The Boland Farm, Peekskill.

The total number of inmates under the care of the Society, during the past year, was twelve hundred and nine. The number received during the year ending October 1, 1875, was two hundred and seventy; the number discharged, two hundred and thirty-three. Of the latter seven were placed out by adoption, and twenty-two by indenture. One hundred and thirty-four were returned to parents or guardians. Four left without permission, ten were sent out of the State, thirty-five were otherwise discharged, and twenty-one died.

The total expenditures of the Society for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, amounted to \$94,975.22, of which nearly \$4,000 was for buildings and improvements. The personal estate and investments are valued at \$3,895, and the indebtedness is set down at \$45,000.

Female Orphan Asylum, Prince street,

Is a large plain brick edifice, erected in 1825, to which additions have been made at various periods. It is under the immediate charge of thirteen Sisters of Charity of the Order of Mt. St. Vincent, Sister Mary Frances being the Sister Servant.

On the day of visitation, October 12th, there were two hundred and two children as inmates, varying in ages from three to fourteen years. A school is kept on the premises, under the supervision of the Department of Public Instruction, and an Industrial School, where those old enough to sew are trained in machine and hand sewing. Work is taken in from the shops.

In the Industrial School, or sewing department, there were over one hundred children, averaging twelve years of age, seated on three rows of comfortable seats, each seat accommodating three girls. Three girls were at work on sewing machines. The rest were engaged in finishing shirts. The room is large and well lighted, having windows on each side, and is brightened with pictures. It is under the charge of two Sisters. The Sisters say: "The children are taught the English branches of education, four hours every day, and spend from one and a half to two hours in the sewing department." The room contains a piano, which is occasionally played by a Sister for the entertainment of the girls.

The girls, we were informed, are kept till they are sixteen, and then suitable places in families are found for them.

In the Asylum is a chapel, capable of accommodating two hundred and thirty persons; also, a neat library, of two hundred volumes, for the use of the children. The school-room, "for little ones," contains children from three to thirteen years old. They appeared healthy and were free from diseases of the eye or skin.

The infirmary is a very pleasant room, and has a strip of carpet through its center. The beds looked very neat, but were unoccupied, none of the children being sick at the time.

The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads, straw beds, feather pillows, and good warm bed covering.

In the dining room we found the table supplied with good bread, butter and tea for the evening meal. The Sister gave us the following as the usual dietary: "For breakfast, bread, butter and coffee, meat being added for the larger girls. For dinner, bread, meat and vegetables, varying according to the season. For supper, bread, butter and tea. Fruits are furnished abundantly in their season, and the invalids have meat three times a day. A portion of the supplies used in the asylum come from the Boland farm at Peekskill. All the national holidays are observed with due honors. "At Thanksgiving," the Sister says, "the children have roast turkey and other good things, and Christmas generally lasts for a week."

The children are variously dressed. When attending funerals, however, they all wear black, with white aprons.

The house is well ventilated, and is lighted by gas. It was found to be very clean, and bore evidence of excellent house-keeping.

Of the two hundred and two inmates at the date of October 1st, ninety-seven were orphans, and one hundred and five half-orphans. Six were of native, and one hundred and ninety-six of foreign parents. All were from the city of New York.

Female Orphan Asylum, Madison Avenue.

This is the largest, the most commodious, and, in architectural appearance, the most imposing of the three asylums under the direction of the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum Society. The building was begun in 1867, and opened in 1868. It was planned to embrace another wing, and to accommodate between six and seven hundred girls.

The asylum is under the charge of the Religious Order already referred to, Sister Clotilda being the Sister Servant. She is assisted in her work by seventeen Sisters of her Order. Seventeen domestics are employed in the washing and cooking departments.

The building is heated with hot air, lighted by gas, and supplied with city water. A fire-escape stairway communicates with each floor in the rear of the building. Great pains have been taken in the plan and construction of the asylum to combine all needed requisites, and the edifice reflects great credit upon its benevolent projectors.

At the date of visitation, October 8th, the Sister Servant stated the following in relation to children coming under her charge: "We receive children from four to nine years old, and keep them till they are fourteen, unless withdrawn by their friends before that age. We adopt many, and place out others in families. It is not usual for us to indenture. The children are visited after they are placed out. We may drop in upon them at any time, and if we find they are ill-treated they are withdrawn."

The Sister spoke quite feelingly of the children that had come to them from the Nurseries on Randall's Island, remarking that they had all the ways and manners of the pauper class, and that she did not see why a child must be degraded simply because it was poor. The following remarks of the Sister Servant illustrate, in some degree, the generous zeal actuating them in the important work in which they are engaged: "I do not think it is well to make children feel that they are dependent. It depresses the spirits. On the contrary, we should try to elevate them. If they behave well, and make good use of their opportunities, they have as good prospects before them as any other children."

The children are instructed in the ordinary branches of an English education. They are also taught plain sewing, and receive singing lessons twice a week from a professor of music, while those who have special musical talent are afforded every opportunity to develop it.

During our visit the children sang several hymns in a manner reflecting credit not only upon themselves, but upon their teacher. The music books are said to be the same as those used in Vassar College.

We found the children distributed in four class rooms, each containing about sixty pupils, under the charge of a Sister. They were variously dressed, and appeared cleanly. The schools were furnished with patent seats and the modern appliances of school rooms.

The dormitories are large and airy, with high ceilings supported by iron pillars. The large mullioned windows have inside blinds. Each dormitory has four lines of beds. The bedsteads are iron, single, two feet three inches wide, and four feet ten inches long, each having a railing on which to hang the clothes at night. Feather pillows and straw mattresses are used. Each bed had two sheets, a blanket, a coverlet, and in cold weather a comfortable was said to be added. The beds were all covered with blue check spreads, and so made up as to present a very neat appearance. A large room, measuring one hundred and forty-two by thirty-eight feet, contained one hundred and forty-one beds. At each end of the room are night closets and lavatories. The children wash in running water. Two Sisters sleep in each dormitory.

In the infirmary we found one little child sick. In speaking of the health of the children, the Sister said: "Last year we had scarlet fever and diphtheria. Eight of the children died of the former, and two of the latter disease. Two also died of consumption. We had only three deaths during the years 1872 and 1873." In this department there were double pillows on each bed, and little rocking chairs in the room.

The refectory is a very large apartment furnished with the usual accessories. Crockery mugs and dishes, knives and forks and spoons are used. The cooking and laundry work are done by steam.

Three sewing machines were in use on the premises.

The number of children in the institution October 1st, was five hundred and four. One hundred and sixty-nine of these were orphans, and three hundred and thirty-five half-orphans. Fifty were of native, and four hundred and fifty-four of foreign parentage. All were from New York.

The house throughout was neat and orderly, and the children were evidently under high moral and religious influences.

Male Orphan Asylum, Fifth Avenue.

The building occupied by the male orphans, consisting of a main and two wings, was completed in 1851, and the children were removed into it in November of that year. It is a spacious brick structure, and with its grounds occupies two-fifths of a block facing Fifth avenue, between Fifty-first and Fifty-second streets. The main building is

about sixty by thirty feet, and has balconies fifteen feet wide in both front and rear. The north wing is used for cooking, washing, etc. An exhibition room is on its first floor. The south wing on the first floor contains the chapel, and the upper stories of both wings are used for dormitories. The school rooms are in the main building. The Asylum stands a little back from the street, the grounds in front being terraced and tastefully planted with flowers and shrubbery. It was designed originally to accommodate four hundred and fifty children.

The Asylum is under the charge of the Sisters of Charity of Mt. St. Vincent, of whom Sister Ann Borromeo is the Sister Servant. A call was made at the Asylum, October 8th, but owing to the lateness of the hour it was not convenient to make a full inspection of the premises. There were on the day of visitation, altogether, twenty-five Sisters engaged in the work, nine of whom were teachers. Eleven or twelve female domestics are employed.

At the date referred to, there were in the Asylum five hundred and seventeen boys, one hundred and ninety-nine of whom were orphans, and three hundred and eighteen half-orphans. All were from the city of New York. One hundred and seventy of the boys were of native, and three hundred and forty-seven of foreign, parentage.

The boys, while in the Asylum, receive a plain English education, and, so far as their tender years will allow, are disciplined to habits of industry.

Boland Farm, Peekskill.

This valuable property, consisting of two hundred and forty acres of land, was purchased about five years ago for \$50,000, out of a legacy left by Mr. William Boland, a citizen of New York. The amount of the bequest was \$50,000, but, by judicious handling on the part of those to whom this sacred trust was confided, this sum, with the interest accruing thereon, has amounted to nearly \$100,000. The gift was made to this corporation for the general purpose of protecting orphan and half-orphan children. The intentions of this benevolent gentleman are certainly well carried out in this humane project of establishing an industrial home for boys in the country.

The farm lies just outside of Peekskill in a northerly direction. It is intended mainly as a home for boys who are not otherwise disposed of after they have remained their allotted time in the Asylum.

A farmer is at present employed to work the farm. Accommodations have been provided for a few Sisters of Charity of Mt. St. Vincent, who look after the domestic concerns of the house, and are the guardians of the boys while there. This arrangement, however, is but temporary, it being the intention of the managers to place the institution in the charge of the Christian Brothers. A building is soon to be erected. The plans are already drawn, and the workmen were, at

the date of October 8th, making excavations preparatory to laying the foundations. The size of the building will be forty by one hundred feet. It is planned for three stories.

At last reports there were eighteen or twenty boys at the farm.

The business and financial affairs of the farm are directed by a committee of five members of the Managing Board of the Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum, who keep an account of its products, and charge the different Asylums respectively, with what is sent to them.

THE SHELTERING ARMS.

New York.

The Sheltering Arms was first opened on the 6th of October, 1864, in the house of its President, the Rev. Thomas T. Peters, D. D., on the corner of One Hundredth street and Broadway, who generously donated its use to the institution for ten years. Preparations were made to admit forty children, and, on the first night, every bed was engaged, and the house was full. The work continued to grow till an addition to the building became a manifest necessity. Exertions were accordingly made to procure subscriptions, and, in 1866, the desirable addition was complete, thus increasing the capacity of the institution, so as to accommodate ninety children.

With a view of extending the work still further, land was purchased at Manhattanville, and a series of cottages erected, planned on the model of the *Bauhe Haus* in Hamburg. To these it was subsequently removed. In explaining this system, the President remarks :

"It is our hope by this new system of distribution to break up in some degree the institution feeling, and make a nearer approach to the family relation. In order to accomplish this object, we propose placing at the head of each cottage a lady to stand in the relation of mother to the children, and in that capacity to have the superintendence and control of the occupants of her cottage out of school hours. Under this direction the inmates of the cottages for the larger children, divided into companies of ten each, will be expected to do the work in the dormitory and keep in order the play-room and bath-room of the family."

The internal arrangements were under the care of the Religious Order of the Sisters of St. Mary, from the commencement of the institution, till 1870. Upon their resignation the President paid the following fitting tribute of appreciation to their gentle services in the good work :

"Our patrons are already aware that during the past year we have lost from the Institution, after five and one-half years of quiet and prosperity, its kind and constant friends, the 'Sisters of St. Mary.' Their devotion and self-denial, their readiness to carry out, in relation to the children, the wishes of the Trustees, had endeared them to all connected with 'The Sheltering Arms.' Thanks cannot re-

pay them for all that they have been to us. Without their aid we should hardly have ventured to open our doors at the first; and throughout these years of rapid growth they have modified and in a large degree directed the development of the institution. We shall ever remember with gratitude and pleasure this long term of faithful and unsalaried service."

This institution is situated at One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street, corner of Tenth avenue, within the former precincts of Manhattanville, and is under the patronage of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The building comprises five sections or cottages—a central, thirty-six by forty feet, used for offices, parlor and private apartments for those in charge, and two lateral wings, one for each sex, each wing being forty by fifty feet, and containing two dwelling-houses or cottages for the children. Each cottage has its own dormitory, dining room and play-room for children. The cottages are named after the parties who built them. One of them is called the "Ladies' Association Cottage," being built by a number of ladies who formed an organization to support the Nursery. They paid \$5,000 for the cottage. Another is named after Mrs. Peter Cooper. Two other cottages are named after Mr. John D. Wolfe and Major Montgomery. These gentlemen, it is said, gave the money to complete them. The architecture of the building is attractive, and the interior appointments plain, but tasteful, the walls being mostly tinted and the moldings shaded. Two of the cottages have large porches, with glass windows, where the children play during the winter. In one of these was a pleasing portrait of the lady who built it. On the walls of the play-room were bright pictures, subjects of home life, with autumn leaves twined gracefully over the frames.

In the dining room were tables to seat thirty-five children. Chairs and stools of wood-color were in use. Inside blinds, and wainscoting of pine about five feet from the floor, were also pleasing features of this department. On the wall of the dining room, in a conspicuous position, was a motto, presented by Mr. Bergh, as follows: "I promise to protect dumb animals, and may God in His Mercy protect me."

The division walls of the cottages on each side of the main do not extend above the first story, consequently the dormitory floors in the second and third stories of each two adjoining cottages form one large room. The large room on the second story is used for one cottage, and that on the third story for the other, thus securing better light and ventilation than would be possible were the cottages divided on the second and third floors. The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads, twenty-nine inches wide, having high head and foot pieces. Mattresses and husk pillows are used. A considerable number of the beds have little cards bearing the names of those who support the occupants. One hundred and thirty-eight dollars a year maintains

a child. One card read, "Supported by Miss Sophie Furness." Several read, "Supported by a gentleman." Grace church supports one bed. Other beds are supported by churches, and others again by ladies and gentlemen, and some are supported by officers of the institution.

On a lot near the Shelter is a small brick building used for an infirmary. It is furnished with ten beds. A competent and faithful nurse is always resident. "Thither at a moment's notice may be transferred any sick child, without delaying a day or even hours until a nurse can be procured from without. A nurse thus hired for the occasion would be probably a stranger to the children, and that at a time when they most need a familiar hand."

The girls are taught to sew in classes under the superintendence of a lady instructor.

The sewing room is over the main cottage. It contains two sewing machines. The Mother of the house sleeps in a little room adjoining the dormitory.

While our sympathies were out-flowing toward the homeless, they were directed in another channel by the following inscription upon one of the little cribs in the nursery: "In memory of little Alice." A silent blessing went out from the heart toward those bereaved, who, rather than bury their love in the grave of their lost one, had bestowed it upon a living object whose very helplessness had established a claim for pity. There are two beds in the nursery that are thus endowed, one in the sum of \$2,000 and the other in the sum of \$1,000.

The Nursery also contains a baby play-house, profusely stocked with toys. In the dining room, connected with the nursery, the tables are low, and the chairs in keeping; some of the little chairs having arms.

The institution possesses a melodeon, which is used on Sundays in the Sunday School.

A love of flowers is cultivated in the children, and many of them are permitted to have little garden patches of their own.

Each cottage has a door opening into the general play-ground, in which is an open shed, twelve or thirteen feet wide, with seats at the back, used for play during the winter and in stormy weather. In the play-yard was a little wooden play-house which the children had constructed. It was of two stories, displayed considerable ingenuity in its plan, and was a source of great delight to the children.

The school is conducted in a separate building. About one hundred of the children attend. It is divided into primary and advanced departments. The school-rooms were brightened with flowers. One contained a good organ, and with this as an accompaniment the children sang "Rain upon the Roses."

The children wash in running water, and each have separate towels,

tooth brushes and looking glasses. The latter, it was stated, they had kept for two years, without breaking. The children are subjected to family influences. They are invited into the parlor every evening to sing to piano accompaniment. "We cannot," says the lady in charge, Miss Sarah Seton Richmond, "carry out the family system fully. The institution gives one person thirty to take care of, whereas, the number ought to be only ten or fifteen. If you want to give the children the best chance, I think, ten or fifteen in a cottage is enough. One person cannot study the characters of thirty children, and it is important for the person having charge to know the disposition of each child. Children often come to-day, stay a week and then go. But we have about fifty children who have been with us five years."

A library of about four hundred volumes belongs to the institution. The portrait of Dr. Peters, the founder of the charity, is in the parlor; and one, of the founder of each cottage, is placed in one of the play-rooms of the several houses.

The number of children in the institution, October 1, 1875, was one hundred and thirty-three — sixty-three boys and seventy girls. Of these, three were orphans, ninety half-orphans, and forty had both parents living. Forty-seven were of native, and eighty-six of foreign, parentage. Fifty-eight were partially supported by parents or friends, and seventy-five wholly by the institution. The number of children received during the year was ninety-three; the number discharged, ninety-three. Of the latter, eighty-six were returned to parents or guardians, four transferred to other institutions, and three were otherwise discharged.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$25,093.14. The invested fund of the institution amounts to \$3,500.

Notwithstanding the number aided in this institution, the field of work could be greatly extended with additional means. On this point, Dr. Peters, in a recent report, says:

"During its ten years of activity the Sheltering Arms has received six hundred and fifteen children. Of these there were admitted during the year ending May 1, 1874, seventy-one, selected out of three hundred and eighty-five applicants. In pain and grief the larger portion of the remaining three hundred and fourteen were refused or postponed. For a few, perhaps twenty, we were able to obtain places in other charitable homes. A larger number, possibly seventy or even one hundred, would not be reckoned among those especially needing our care. Of the rest we can only say sorrowfully that, yearning to welcome, we were obliged to deny.

"To know what these refusals mean, one must pass days beneath our roof, listen to the sad tale of the deserted wife; and to the piteous

story of the father, whose home is broken up by his wife's sickness. With that loved companion at the hospital, himself at board, his scanty income suffices now to provide for only a child or two in some inexpensive way and place. But what shall be done with those other sons and daughters for whom he cannot pay, and for whom no house of relative or friend stands open? Even to these we must say no! Day after day, for long, sad months, this is the only possible answer. Throughout the whole year three or four each week have been reluctantly dismissed, while we longed for the power to do, and mourned the necessity which closed our doors upon the stricken and the hopeless."

An interesting feature in this institution is the attempt made to engraft the family upon the orphan asylum system. This has proved so successful in Germany, in the work first inaugurated by Dr. Wichern, the philanthropist, that its introduction in this and similar institutions in our State will be watched with great interest.

Aside from the novelty of the system here adopted, the conception of the building is ingenious and would seem to be worthy the attention of those contemplating changes in their system of work, or in the construction of their institutions. Those advocating this system assert, "second to the religious benefit we place the social advantages of the cottage system.

"With one hundred and forty or more children in one mass, the individuality is gone. Could we reduce our households to twenty, we should be better pleased than now. But even with thirty or thirty-five inhabitants, the cottage, if rather a populous home, is still a home. After evening prayers, in each family by itself, the younger members being sent up to bed, the older children play the games presented to them, or gather around the table, cheerful with its neat cloth and pillar light and picture papers and piled up books, and there, with the Mother of the Family, read or draw, or otherwise pleasantly and usefully pass the social hour.

"This cottage system engenders, too, a little salutary rivalry both among children and patrons, to have each cottage and family more orderly and perfect than its neighbor. The children have always had in each dormitory distinct cupboards, with ample room for their clothes. Now, in addition, through the thoughtful provision of kind friends, the Wolfe Cottage has, on the play-room floor, a closet with a shelf for each boy, where are kept his books, drawing materials and little treasures."

SHELTER FOR RESPECTABLE GIRLS AND HOME FOR CONVALESCENTS.

New York.

The Shelter is under the charge of the Order of the Sisters of the Holy Communion of the Protestant Episcopal Church, Sister Catharine being Treasurer and Secretary. This Sisterhood formerly had charge of St. Luke's Hospital. The Sisters are required to engage for the term of three years, with liberty of renewal. Those entering the Order are required to pass a novitiate of six months.

The institution is situated at 332 Sixth avenue, New York. It was founded in 1871, and has for its objects "to provide a shelter for unemployed Protestant girls, and a home for those requiring rest before employment again."

Six Sisters are engaged in this work, including also the teaching of a parish school, the conducting of an Old Ladies' Home, and the managing of a Shelter for Babies. The home for the Sisterhood is situated at 328 Sixth avenue, where they also maintain a dispensary for the poor of the neighborhood. The Home for Aged Women and the Parish School are at 300 Sixth avenue, and the Shelter for Babies is at 143 West Twentieth street.

The Shelter for Respectable Girls and Home for Convalescents, is, the Sister informed us, intended for Protestants of every denomination. The great object aimed at is to keep girls from getting into trouble, when they find themselves without means and strangers in the city. Such are received into the Shelter, boarded two weeks for nothing, and secured suitable situations. The Shelter is not intended to be an intelligence office. Its main objects are two-fold: "First, to afford a temporary home, where patients discharged from the hospital before they are strong enough to work, and who have no home to which they can go, may remain till they are able to take situations. Second, to offer a shelter to girls who, while seeking situations, have no home or relations to whom to go for protection, and who would otherwise be obliged to seek lodgings in some tenement house already overcrowded, and where they are sometimes exposed to wickedness and temptation of which they before had no idea."

All the work of the house is done by the inmates, also a great deal of sewing for the other institutions under the care of the Sisters. The girls are expected to give one-half of the day to the service of the house, the other half to their own work. They can go out during the day if necessary, but all must be in the house by six o'clock. The sum of \$2 a week is charged each inmate who is able to pay. The house was nicely furnished, and seemed to possess all the requirements of a comfortable home.

The personal histories of those who receive the benefits of this

Shelter are very interesting. Sometimes it is that of a young English girl found in the city without home, friends or money; at other times, that of a delicate young woman discharged from the hospital half cured, with no place to go to; and then again, a blooming maiden, innocent of the snares of city life, is about to enter the service of a party apparently respectable, but who really only seeks her for the vilest purposes. A case illustrating the timely aid of the Shelter to persons in the perilous circumstances last mentioned, is thus given by the Sister: "Two sisters sought the protection of the Shelter in August. They were the daughters of a physician, whose continued ill health rendered it impossible for him to support a large family. These two, being the oldest children, felt that they must leave home to seek employment in the city to relieve their father. They brought a little money with them, which was, however, soon exhausted. They lived in one of the many cheap boarding-houses, and vainly sought for employment. They were subjected to numerous insults, both in advertising and in answering advertisements, and finally came to us, their money all gone, and they almost in despair. In a few days they engaged to go to situations in our immediate neighborhood, and it was only by the timely visit of one of the Sisters to make some further inquiries of the person who had engaged them, that they were prevented from going to this house, which would have proved their ruin, and from which their youth and beauty would have made it almost impossible for them to escape. A good home was soon after obtained for them in a responsible family, where they gave perfect satisfaction." This branch of the Sisters' work is a very important one. The results attained are substantial, and it is believed the money expended in its support has been used with great prudence and advantage.

The Babies' Shelter is in a private house. At the time of inspection the double parlor was converted into a nursery. Here were little arm-chairs, with and without rockers, rocking-horses, etc. There were also little tables in use twenty inches high, and easy chairs for the babies. The children were under the charge of a Sister, who seemed to watch over them with a mother's tenderness, directing their little pastimes, settling their childish differences, and permeating all with her own gentle, refining character. They were clothed in bright-colored dresses, and white aprons with sleeves. "Nearly all of them," the Sister says, "have mothers, but no fathers. We have a few that we do not get paid for. The mothers of all pay if they possibly can." The children sleep in pretty iron cribs, and at night are cared for by a nurse who sleeps in the same room. Every thing in this house was arranged in good taste, and with due regard to convenience. The rooms were large, airy and liberally stocked with toys. In the rear is a piazza, where the little ones can get fresh air.

Two classes of children are kept. First, "day children," or those who only remain during the day while their mothers are out at work; and, second, "house children," who remain day and night. The cleanly and happy appearance of the children was very gratifying, and the loving care bestowed upon them by these good Sisters commands grateful recognition. The importance of investing childhood with bright surroundings, is seen not only in its effect upon the future well-being of the child, but indirectly upon that of society itself. Thus, this self-denying work of the Sisters assumes a character that is far-reaching in its results.

SOCIETY FOR THE REFORMATION OF JUVENILE DELINQUENTS (NEW YORK HOUSE OF REFUGE).

New York.

This institution is situated on Randall's Island, fronting the Harlem river. The walks approaching it are graveled, and shade trees, a fountain and other attractive objects adorn the grounds in front.

"The buildings are of brick, in the Italian style. The two principal structures front the river, and form a facade nearly a thousand feet in length. The line of their fronts is exactly parallel with the city avenues. The larger of the two buildings is for the accommodation of the boys' department, the other for that of the girls. Other buildings are located in the rear of these, and are inclosed by a stone wall twenty feet high. A division of like height separates the grounds of the boys' department from that of the girls, and in each department, walls separate the inmates into two divisions.

"The boys' house is nearly six hundred feet long. The dome-surmounted portions are devoted to the use of the officers; the central mass also contains the chapel; while the extreme portions contain the hospitals and lavatories." The portion between the center and end buildings is appropriated to dormitory purposes, and contains six hundred and thirty-six solidly constructed cells, five feet wide, seven feet long and seven feet high. "In the rear is the school and dining hall building, seventy by one hundred and thirty-eight feet. A central brick wall divides the building in each story into two equal parts, one for each division. The lower story is appropriated to dining rooms and the upper story to school-rooms. In the rear of the school building are the kitchen and bakery, occupying a space twenty-five by ninety feet. The work-shops are at the northerly and southerly extremities of the yard, and are each thirty by one hundred feet, and three stories high.

"The girls' house is two hundred and fifty feet long, the central portion of which contains the apartments of the matron, assistants

and female teachers, while the wings contain two hundred and fifty dormitories for the inmates. In the rear, connected by two corridors or covered halls, is a building for school-rooms and dining halls, the hospitals, sewing rooms and lavatories being at each end, with the laundry in the rear.

"The whole establishment is supplied with Croton water, brought across the Harlem river in a three and one-quarter inch lead pipe. Tanks are in the attics of the principal buildings, and a reservoir of one hundred feet diameter, located beyond the inclosure, affords a reserve for extraordinary occasions, as well as a plentiful supply of ice in the winter."

The institution is over fifty years old, having been organized March 29, 1824, and opened for practical work January 1, 1825. It was located on Twenty-third street, New York, till October 31, 1854, when its present eligible quarters were entered upon. The property covers thirty-seven and a half acres of land. The institution is under the superintendency of Mr. Israel C. Jones.

Its affairs are controlled by a Board of Managers, elected by the stockholders, and serving without compensation. The title to the property is vested in the association. Children of both sexes are received, the admission of boys being restricted to the eastern counties, while girls are admitted from all parts of the State.

As we entered the hall, on the day of our visit, October 12th, a boy, who had just been brought in, was undergoing the usual examination upon admittance. He was about sixteen years of age, a vigorous youth, with a sharp face, indicative more of cunning than of intelligence. He spoke German, and, consequently, the examination was conducted by means of an interpreter. The boy, on being questioned, told the following story. He came to America from Hamburg, on a steamer. His father was a dealer in horses and cattle. The boy had been in the city eight weeks, and had stolen a watch worth ten dollars, for which he was arrested. His own account of the transaction is as follows: "I got a situation with a poultry dealer; I carried the poultry around the town; I worked for a German Jew; he would not pay me, and I stole his watch." The boy had no friends in the city, and, according to his own confession, could neither read nor write. He evidently belonged to the criminal class, and the circumstances would warrant the suspicion that he had been sent out of his native country for his country's good.

An examination of the house was made in company with the Superintendent. The cells, in which the boys are locked at night, are furnished with iron bedsteads, two feet three inches wide. Straw beds are used. Each bed has two sheets and two blankets. Additional bedding is added when needed.

In the bath-room are two large iron vats, with pipes running under the inner rim, pierced with holes to enable the boys to wash in running water. The towels are hung on rollers about the room. The floor is of stone.

In the dining room the tables are each set for twelve, and were furnished with the ordinary table furniture, excepting table cloths. Two boys at each table act as monitors, one sitting at each end of the table. The meal, on the day of visitation, consisted of soup and bread and butter. The boys sat on chairs. Five boys acted as waiters. If a boy's plate needed replenishing, the monitor at the head of his table held up his hand, and he was waited upon. Three hundred and five boys were in the dining room in charge of two officers.

The school rooms are large, well-lighted apartments, furnished with all modern improvements.

The printing, we were informed, is a branch of industry introduced last spring. In this department were four small rotary presses, worked either by hand or by power; also three large presses. The labor of the lads is contracted for at thirty-five cents per day. In the composing room about eighty boys were employed. Occasionally the boys work after their allotted tasks are performed, for which they are paid, and allowed all they earn. There is, in connection with this department, a stereotyping and electrotyping branch.

In the wire department were a large number of boys, engaged in working wire into various shapes for toasters, rat-traps, etc., etc.; also one hundred and twenty-five small boys, employed upon a hoop-skirt contract, and a hundred upon another article of ladies' wear. In another department there were one hundred and twenty-five boys employed upon a stocking contract.

In the schools the following branches are taught: reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, etc. It is stated by the President of the Board of Managers, Mr. Edgar Ketchum, in the fifty-first Annual Report of the Society, that "the apprehension of the inmates is generally quick, and their advancement from ignorance to knowledge rapid.

* * * * * The poor children who are brought to us have many of them been grossly neglected, and are very illiterate, and find here their first regular and careful instruction." The principal of the school, Mr. E. H. Hallock, it is thought, wisely believes in the importance of exercising the element of human sympathy in the labors of himself and associates. He says, in his last report on the school: "Sympathy is one of the latent forces of our being. We cannot philosophize upon it, yet all confess its power. It sometimes flashes along every line of the soul, conquering minds when every other device has failed. Our life here is full of illustrations of this fact. There are minds, however, that sympathy, in common with all other

efforts, fails to reach. They are found among the older boys. One thing, it seems to me, is established beyond question. A boy's chance for reformation begins to wane at fifteen years of age, and at seventeen his case is almost hopeless. I pause in this writing, while I hold in contemplation the eight hundred souls before me with all their necessities and wants. Each has a separate nature with special personal powers which he cannot alienate, and which we cannot take from him; poisoned, perhaps, at the fountain, tarnished by voluntary alliance with evil, yet possessing numerous inherent and wondrous qualities that live even though the soul descends to the deepest infamy. Each one is struggling on toward the judgment with such interests about him that, were he to be reformed in heart and life, it would cause a thrill of emotion in all the realms of heaven, for there is joy in the presence of angels over one sinner that repenteth."

In the girls' department the dormitories, dining-rooms, bath-rooms and school-rooms are similar to those of the boys' department. The girls do all the domestic work of their own department, make their own and the boys' clothing, and attend to the laundry work. The sewing machines of this department are run by power.

In reference to the girls' department, the Secretary of the Ladies' Committee connected with the institution, Mrs. Martha S. Ferris, in her report, says: "The number of girls has increased in the past six months from one hundred and nineteen to one hundred and thirty-six. Some of these wayward ones are brought to us from dens of iniquity; others are creatures of circumstances over which they have no control, but all need to be brought to the Saviour of the world, whose blood alone can cleanse each heart from every stain of sin. We seek not only the reformation and elevation of these, by change of heart and moral suasion, but we aim at making them useful members of the community, by having them taught the simple English branches and domestic duties."

The chapel is a large room with a dais at one end, upon which is the lectern, and a gallery at the other end where the girls sit, the relative position of the sexes being such as to prevent the one being seen by the other. The chapel is furnished with an organ. Sabbath services are held regularly here, and clergymen of all Christian denominations are, from time to time, welcomed to the pulpit to preach to the inmates, the only limitation being that nothing sectarian shall be taught. The Scripture lessons by the American Sunday School Union are adopted in the Sabbath School. On Wednesday evening there is a lecture by the Chaplain, which both officers and children attend. The Chaplain, Rev. Geo. A. Smyth, in his last report expresses the following opinion: "The success of the work of reformation depends more upon the individual qualifications of the persons engaged in it, the

wisdom and enthusiasm with which it is prosecuted, than upon any particular system of reform or peculiar machinery applied."

As evidence of what is being accomplished here in the way of reformation, we further quote from the same source: "The seed sown in these youthful hearts—often very barren soil—by sermons, lecture-lessons, personal conversations, daily devotions, kindly admonitions, we are not permitted to see ripen except in comparatively few cases; for when a boy has given evidence of reformation he is dismissed on the first opportunity that offers him a proper home and legitimate employment. But from time to time we do see that the seed cast upon the water is not lost.

"The well-to-do farmer comes to cheer the boys and express his gratitude to the House where he was an inmate more than forty years ago. The lad that went from the Refuge on a whaling voyage turns up many years after, master and owner of his vessel. A promising law firm, two hours ride from this Island, is composed of two of our graduates, who afterward took their diplomas from the best college of their State. The hero of Melville's South Sea fiction 'Omoo and Typee,' was once a boy of the Refuge, and is still living. He is now a worthy member of the Episcopal church in a New Jersey city. With his rector he lately dined at the house.

"A list of the faithful, efficient officers in the house, taken from the boys and girls for the last fifty years, would make a roll of honor alike creditable to the Institution and its wards. Alas! all do not turn out well, but if twelve thousand of the sixteen thousand who have come under the care of the Refuge are saved from a life of vice and set forth on a life of virtue, as the records show, then it is worth while 'to labor and to wait' for even greater success.

"When we think of the many others whom these twelve thousand might have corrupted had they gone on in their criminal career, of the sorrow to their friends, suffering to themselves, and the evils entailed upon the State, we cannot easily over-estimate the wisdom and economy that seek to check crime and pauperism in their early stages."

In regard to the importance of preventive measures for arresting crime, the Chaplain says: "Some one has said it would be wise economy for the State to board every criminal at the Fifth Avenue Hotel if that would put a stop to crime. Be that as it may, no one will doubt that if crime and pauperism can be prevented, the remedy must be applied to the children, and the earlier the better. It would be a great step gained in advance if the measures adopted were such as would reach the child before the child reaches the Reformatory.

"The most effectual preventive would begin at the nursery. Cruelty to animals is bad, but cruelty to infants is monstrous, and the humane law that steps in to shield the brute should not be less humane in step-

ping in to save the boy. Were Mr. Bergh to stand by while some untoward teamster beat and cut his horse, and then come with bandages for the poor animal, he might be esteemed kind, but would certainly be thought careless; and when the community stand by and see a child battered and bruised into a criminal on the street, and come along only to poultice the wounds it might have prevented, it is a day too late with its remedy. The child, if ever healed, will be scarred through life, the stigma of crime will be upon him, the poison of crime will be in him."

The institution contains extensive libraries. In the main library, used by the employes, there are fifteen hundred volumes. In the cases for the boys and girls there are two thousand five hundred and eighty-four volumes. The entire collection numbers four thousand and eighty-six works. Additions are made from time to time of such select works as may prove entertaining to the young, and assist in the work of education and reform. During the past year there have been distributed one hundred and twenty-five copies of the *Youth's Companion* and forty-four copies of the *Christian Weekly*, which have been given to the boys of the first division. The following opinion is expressed by the Librarian, Luther L. Feek: "The benefit derived from the library by the inmates has been commensurate with the advantages it has offered; and its good effect, in nearly all cases, is seen in their intellectual development and moral bearing."

The office of the institution is placed in telegraphic communication with every department of the house, enabling the Superintendent to direct all its workings without leaving the office.

The discipline of the house was thus explained by Mr. Jones: "The most effective means of discipline is the keeping of grades and badges. Of these we have four classes, and weekly changes are made either in the way of promotion or degradation, according to the merit or demerit of the boy. We never omit this. I have been here nearly twenty-four years, and this has never been once omitted. We have but two rules for the boys to keep. These have been in force without amendment for forty-nine years. The first is, '*Tell no lies*,' the second, '*Always do the best you can*.' Every boy on entering the house is taught these two rules. He is made to repeat them over, and has their meaning explained to him. His subsequent conduct is pronounced good or bad, according as it conforms to or deviates from these two rules. There are two conditions upon which a boy can obtain a dismissal from the institution. First, he must have advanced to the third grade in school, be able to read and write and understand the first elements in geography and arithmetic. Second, he must have credit for six consecutive weeks in the first grade, wearing the first badge. The shortest time in which any boy could be discharged

from the institution is three or four months. The average length of time is about a year. No boy is discharged unless he has as good a prospect for advancement as he has here. We never turn a boy adrift. We expect to advance his interest. If he has friends, he is restored to them. If not, we find a home for him. There are people all over the country wanting boys. They usually apply here in the spring of the year. We investigate their claim, and require a certificate from their clergyman, or from some respectable man in their neighborhood, recommending them as suitable parties to be intrusted with the care of a boy. The lad is then called aside and is told that such a man wants him, that he expects him to do such and such things, and that he will have certain privileges; for instance, to be one of the family, eat at his table and sit in the same room in the evening. He is asked how he would like to go. If he is willing, articles of indenture are signed for three or four years. For the larger boys it is three years. A report is required from the man twice a year, and it is expressly stipulated that the boy must have free access to his own correspondence. The larger number of the boys, however, have friends to whom they are intrusted.

"Every two weeks a committee of the Board of Managers meet. There is nothing left to go hap-hazard. There are from forty to one hundred persons here every two weeks to press applications for the discharge of children. For instance a party comes and says, 'I want to apply for the discharge of John Smith.' His badge and scholarship being found satisfactory, the committee inquire about the character of the home to which the boy is going. The address of the applicant is taken down, his circumstances and his ability to take care of the boy are considered, and then the case is decided. If, on investigation, it appears that the boy would not be bettered by the change, they do not make it.

"Delinquency," the Superintendent thinks, "grows like a crop of potatoes. If fathers and mothers would perform all their duties to their children, require them to attend Sunday-school and church, give them fun and frolic, all that they want of it; such children would never be in the House of Refuge. But after a boy has been allowed for sixteen or seventeen years to run to the bad, it is not an easy matter to reform him."

Careful records of the history of each inmate are kept as long as any trace of them can be found. Among these are many interesting biographies.

The long experience of the Superintendent renders his views valuable. We quote from his last report on the necessity for systematic labor:

"The experience of the past year satisfies (if there was doubt be-

fore) that systematic labor is necessary as a means to the reformation of juvenile delinquents. The happiest, the most contented and the most hopeful among the boys, were those who were fortunate enough to be chosen for the shops. It is further evident that the form of labor that enlists the mind as well as the hands, is productive of the best reformatory results. Especially is this observed among the boys employed at printing. Not only do they show interest in their work here, but they are hopeful because they see the opportunity, when they are discharged, for earning an honest living, an important matter to them and to the community.

"Idleness has been the bane of these children. Sixty-two per cent of those received during the year were habitual idlers. Of those reported as having regular employment, very few were engaged in learning any trade or followed any systematic form of labor. Through idleness their habits became perverted and their moral and mental sensibilities blunted. Under no control, they found their way into the streets to mingle with others idle and bad as themselves. To reform such and to train them into industrious and virtuous citizens by mere precept, without the practical aid of a regular and systematic form of labor, would be quite as difficult as to attempt to teach them mathematics without the aid of figures, or geography without the aid of the globe and map.

"Another point of the highest importance is, that with a regular form of labor (and mechanical is preferable), the boy has the opportunity to earn something for himself to have when he is discharged. The knowledge that he is participating in the profits of his labor makes work not a drudgery but a pleasure, and induces patience and hope, thus preparing the mind in the best possible way to receive instruction."

The Superintendent gives it as his opinion, based upon statistics gathered with some pains, that juvenile delinquency has been on the increase during the last fifty years in proportion to the increase of the population, in the ratio of *thirteen to one*, and that the difficulty of finding proper places for the children, after they leave the house, is also much greater than formerly. On this point he says :

"The first thirty years the demand for boys' help on the farms in this and the adjacent States, and on whaling voyages, was sufficient to take all that were suitable for these occupations. Occasionally a boy was apprenticed to learn some mechanical trade.

"These several occupations took up about 86 per cent of the inmates of the Refuge during the above period, the annual average number being then about 250 boys and girls. The next ten years, 1855 to 1865, the number of commitments increased, and the annual average was about 350. The places offering were for about 60 per cent of the whole number.

"The last ten years, 1865 to 1875, the number of commitments nearly doubled those of the preceding decade, and only about 26 per cent could be placed at any of these occupations. Thus it is seen that only about one-quarter was apprenticed during the last ten years, and there is no probability that the opportunity to find places out of the city will be any better in the future. Probably about 50 per cent of the boys and girls sent here these later years (the class as a whole is of a higher grade than formerly), can safely be returned to their homes. This class is made up of those who have fair homes, but who, from carelessness or thoughtlessness of their parents, have been allowed too great freedom at night, and who unfortunately have been drawn aside by wild companions. A few months' detention and discipline generally serve to correct their habits, and, what is more important, brings forcibly to the parents' mind the necessity of guarding their children, and so save them from greater evils.

"This leaves about 25 per cent without places."

The following table shows the disposition made of the Children sent out during the past year :

| | White boys. | White girls. | Color'd boys. | Color'd girls. | Total. |
|---|----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------------------|--------|
| Discharged to friends | 432 | 37 | 12 | 5 | 486 |
| Discharged to hire | 27 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 36 |
| Discharged by <i>habeas corpus</i> | 2 | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| Indentured to farming | 58 | .... | 10 | .... | 68 |
| Indentured to housewifery ..... | .... | 32 | .... | 7 | 39 |
| Indentured to servant | 2 | .... | .... | .... | 2 |
| Indentured to clerk | 1 | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Transferred to alms-house | 1 | 1 | .... | 1 | 3 |
| Transferred to authorities for criminal prosecution | 3 | .... | .... | .... | 3 |
| Transferred to penitentiary under act of 1873 .. | 1 | .... | .... | .... | 1 |
| Escaped | 5 | .... | .... | .... | 5 |
| Died | 3 | 1 | 1 | .... | 5 |
| Total | 535 | 78 | 24 | 14 | 651 |

Since the opening of the Institution, January 1, 1825, the whole number of children under its care has been 16,430.

| | |
|-------------|--------|
| Boys | 13,091 |
| Girls | 3,339 |
| Total | 16,430 |

The 1st of January, 1875, the number of inmates was as follows :

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| White boys | 641 |
| White girls | 96 |

| | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|
| Colored boys..... | 36 | |
| Colored girls..... | 16 | 799 |

Were received during 1875 :

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-------|
| White boys..... | 588 | |
| White girls..... | 101 | |
| Colored boys..... | 40 | |
| Colored girls..... | 13 | 742 |
| Total in the House during 1875..... | | 1,531 |

The following table will show the parentage of the inmates received during the past year :

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| American..... | 99 |
| German..... | 72 |
| African..... | 44 |
| English..... | 21 |
| French..... | 8 |
| Italian..... | 2 |
| Polish..... | 2 |
| Irish..... | 344 |
| Jewish..... | 8 |
| Scotch..... | 7 |
| Spanish..... | 1 |
| Mixed..... | 24 |
| Indian..... | 1 |
| Total..... | 638 |

The following table shows the offenses of the children committed to the institution during the last ten years :

| YEAR. | Whole number committed. | Committed for petty thieving, vagrancy, disorderly conduct. | Per cent, nearly. | Committed for Grand larceny, burglary, arson, etc. | Per cent, nearly. | Committed for crimes against the person. | Per cent, nearly. |
|--------------|-------------------------|---|-------------------|--|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| In 1866..... | 750 | 655 | 87 | 83 | 11 | 12 | 2 |
| 1867..... | 682 | 631 | 92 | 42 | 7 | 9 | 1 |
| 1868..... | 603 | 553 | 92 | 43 | 7 | 7 | 1 |
| 1869..... | 452 | 418 | 92 | 26 | 6 | 8 | 2 |
| 1870..... | 406 | 359 | 89 | 44 | 10 | 3 | 1 |
| 1871..... | 552 | 495 | 90 | 41 | 8 | 16 | 2 |
| 1872..... | 407 | 371 | 91 | 31 | 8 | 5 | 1 |
| 1873..... | 484 | 402 | 83 | 73 | 15 | 9 | 2 |
| 1874..... | 636 | 557 | 88 | 70 | 11 | 9 | 1 |
| 1875..... | 638 | 568 | 89 | 62 | 9 | 8 | 1 |
| Total..... | 5,606 | 5,019 | 90 | 515 | 9 | 76 | 1 |

The total expenditures during the past year were \$113,328.95. The earnings of the boys amounted to \$21,684.24.

In reference to the causes of juvenile delinquency, the Superintendent has taken great pains during the past year by means of home examinations to ascertain as to the antecedents of the children, which has resulted in securing much valuable information on the subject. The following facts were elicited:

1st. Character and condition of homes:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Resided in private houses..... | 87 |
| Resided in tenement houses and shanties..... | 417 |
| Homes comfortably furnished..... | 250 |
| Homes not comfortably furnished..... | 214 |

2d. Social condition of the family:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Fathers living..... | 327 |
| Mothers living..... | 401 |
| Fathers dead..... | 175 |
| Mothers dead..... | 101 |
| Parents separated..... | 35 |
| Step-fathers..... | 43 |
| Step-mothers..... | 37 |
| Temperate fathers and step-fathers..... | 221 |
| Temperate mothers and step-mothers..... | 335 |
| Intemperate fathers and step-fathers..... | 139 |
| Intemperate mothers and step-mothers..... | 79 |
| Parents having property other than household furniture..... | 77 |
| Parents having no property other than household furniture..... | 401 |

3d. Habits and antecedents of the children before their commitment here:

| | |
|--|-----|
| Attended school regularly .. | 134 |
| Attended school irregularly, or not at all..... | 373 |
| Were habitually employed..... | 162 |
| Were habitually idle..... | 312 |
| Were truants from home and school..... | 312 |
| Were under arrest previous to being sent here..... | 221 |
| Had been inmates of other institutions..... | 168 |

It is shown, among other things, "that poverty is closely connected with juvenile delinquency, and that intemperance is intimately connected with poverty. In eighty-three per cent of the homes visited it was found that the parents possessed no other property than their scanty furniture. Many of the homes were uncomfortably furnished; while in the best there were few attractions to induce the boy or girl to be contented in them. Far the greater number were in tenement houses. These houses were occupied by many families having numerous children, and the rooms were usually untidy, and in some cases filthy. From ten to twenty families under one roof were frequently found. One house was occupied by thirty-two families, having in the aggre-

gate ninety-six children. In some cases the officer found the parents so much under the influence of drink as to be unable to give intelligent answers to his questions.

"Is it any wonder that the children find greater attractions in the streets than in such homes? It is well, in considering the causes of crime, to give large attention to the influences in and surrounding these homes, that it may be ascertained to what extent they contribute to this great evil, and to inquire if, through legislation or otherwise, these hurtful influences and conditions surrounding these unfortunate children may not be corrected. It is universally acknowledged by parents that bad companions caused their children to go astray, and there is much truth in the statement; but they fail to see that the misfortune came to their children by their neglect."

The following valuable tables, showing the admissions and discharges, and other statistics during each decade, from 1825 to 1875, are taken from the fifty-first annual report of the Society:

| | 1st decade. 1825 to 1835. | | 2d decade. 1835 to 1845. | | 3d decade. 1845 to 1855. | | 4th decade. 1855 to 1865. | | 5th decade. 1865 to 1875. | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| | Whole number committed, 1,678. | Per cent. | Whole number committed, 1,853. | Per cent. | Whole number committed, 3,101. | Per cent. | Whole number committed, 3,490. | Per cent. | Whole number committed, 5,694. | Per cent. |
| Males | 1,261 | 75 | 1,304 | 70 | 2,508 | 81 | 2,709 | 78 | 4,763 | 84 |
| Females | 417 | 25 | 554 | 30 | 593 | 19 | 781 | 22 | 931 | 16 |
| Native parents.... | 740 | 44 | 643 | 34½ | 874 | 28 | 498 | 14 | 771 | 13½ |
| Foreign parents.... | 938 | 56 | 1,215 | 65½ | 2,437 | 78 | 2,992 | 86 | 4,898 | 86½ |
| Could read | 1,090 | 65 | 1,047 | 56 | 1,691 | 54½ | 2,745 | 78½ | 4,524 | 80 |
| Could not read.... | 598 | 35 | 811 | 44 | 1,410 | 45½ | 2,745 | 78½ | 4,524 | 80 |
| Criminal..... | 904 | 54 | 882 | 47½ | 1,866 | 60 | 2,145 | 62 | 3,212 | 57 |
| Vagrant & truant.. | 774 | 46 | 976 | 52½ | 1,235 | 40 | 1,845 | 53 | 2,452 | 43 |
| Were returned.... | 249 | 15 | 311 | 16½ | 583 | 19 | 547 | 15½ | 653 | 11 |
| Under ten years of age..... | 130 | 8 | 98 | 5 | 95 | 3 | 69 | 2 | 224 | 4 |
| From ten to four- teen years | 693 | 41 | 735 | 39½ | 1,151 | 37 | 1,196 | 34 | 1,787 | 31 |
| From fourteen to sixteen years.... | 591 | 35 | 723 | 39 | 1,294 | 43 | 1,439 | 41 | 2,106 | 37 |
| Sixteen years and more..... | 264 | 16 | 302 | 16½ | 561 | 18 | 786 | 23 | 1,547 | 28 |
| Were indentured.. | 1,160 | 70 | 1,523 | 82 | 2,486 | 80 | 1,905 | 55 | 1,217 | 22 |
| Were discharged.. | 195 | 11 | 186 | 10 | 409 | 13½ | 1,349 | 39 | 3,571 | 63 |
| Were enlisted.... | 254 | 15 | 72 | 4 | 141 | 4½ | 185 | 5 | 3 | ..... |
| Escaped | 45 | 2½ | 57 | 3 | 33 | 1 | 24 | ½ | 25 | ½ |
| Died | 24 | 1½ | 20 | 1 | 32 | 1 | 27 | ¾ | 69 | 1 |
| RESULTS. | | | | | | | | | | |
| Favorable | 792 | 47 | 702 | 37 | 1,189 | 38½ | 988 | 29 | 568 | 10 |
| Unfavorable | 273 | 17 | 198 | 10½ | 616 | 20 | 319 | 9 | 206 | 4 |
| Unknown | 589 | 36 | 953 | 52½ | 1,294 | 41½ | 2,156 | 62 | 4,101 | 74 |

* 4,875 discharged.

Showing statistics of those heard from favorably during the five decades.

| | 1st decade. 1825 to 1835. | | 2d decade. 1835 to 1845. | | 3d decade. 1845 to 1855. | | 4th decade. 1855 to 1865. | | 5th decade. 1865 to 1875. | |
|--|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|
| | Whole number, 702. | Per cent. | Whole number, 702. | Per cent. | Whole number, 1,189. | Per cent. | Whole number, 988. | Per cent. | Whole number. | Per cent. |
| Males | 579 | 74 | 450 | 64 | 919 | 77 | 716 | 72½ | ... | ... |
| Females | 213 | 25 | 252 | 36 | 270 | 23 | 272 | 27½ | ... | ... |
| Native parents | 335 | 42 | 231 | 33 | 286 | 24 | 185 | 17 | ... | ... |
| Foreign parents | 457 | 58 | 471 | 67 | 903 | 76 | 823 | 83 | ... | ... |
| Could read | 535 | 67 | 406 | 58 | 623 | 53 | 193 | 20 | ... | ... |
| Could not read | 257 | 32 | 296 | 42 | 561 | 47 | 795 | 80 | ... | ... |
| Criminal | 419 | 53 | 299 | 42 | 658 | 55 | 628 | 63½ | ... | ... |
| Vagrant and truant, Under ten years of age | 373 | 47 | 403 | 58 | 531 | 45 | 360 | 36½ | ... | ... |
| From ten to four- teen years | 57 | 7 | 42 | 6 | 52 | 4½ | 44 | 4½ | ... | ... |
| From fourteen to sixteen years | 339 | 42½ | 296 | 42 | 509 | 43 | 365 | 36½ | ... | ... |
| Sixteen years and more | 274 | 34½ | 275 | 39 | 458 | 38½ | 375 | 38 | ... | ... |
| Were indentured .. | 124 | 16 | 89 | 13 | 170 | 14 | 204 | 21 | ... | ... |
| Were discharged .. | 634 | 81 | 656 | 93½ | 1,024 | 86 | 703 | 74 | ... | ... |
| Were enlisted | 49 | 6 | 24 | 3½ | 119 | 10 | 189 | 19 | ... | ... |
| | 109 | 13 | 22 | 3 | 46 | 4 | 66 | 7 | ... | ... |

As having reference to the results which have been achieved by this society and the importance of its work, we quote from a letter of Ex-Governor Horatio Seymour, read before the society at its fiftieth anniversary, June 2, 1875:

"It has been my painful duty to act upon thousands of prayers for pardon, and to study with care the sources and history of crime. Beyond most men, I have had opportunities for seeing the great value of the work of 'The Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents.' I will not dwell upon its direct charities. It has, beyond these, a wide influence in teaching our people and their legislators the causes and courses of wrong-doing. It is among youthful offenders, where the earliest influences which shape character are most clearly seen, that the great truth that crime is the outgrowth of social condition, is exhibited in the clearest light, and that the public as well as the offender is involved in its guilt. There never was an indictment found against a man which was not, in some degree, an indictment of the community in which he lived. Criminals are representative men."

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF HALF-ORPHAN AND DESTITUTE
CHILDREN IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.*New York.*

The following report on this interesting charity has been kindly furnished by Commissioner Roosevelt:

"This Society was organized December 16th, 1835, a day long to be remembered, for on the following night, the fire commenced which destroyed a large portion of the lower part of the city, and which, for many years, was spoken of as the 'great fire.' The consequent gloom and depression throughout the city almost compelled those who had commenced the undertaking to relinquish it. Fortunately they were enabled to persevere.

"At that time there were two orphan asylums in the city. One supported by Protestants, admitted only children who had lost both parents; the other, under the charge of Roman Catholics, was open to those who had lost either or both. There was no Protestant institution in the United States which provided for the care of children having parents living. The necessities of this class were brought prominently before Mrs. Wm. A. Tomlinson, who originated the plan of this institution, which was designed to provide for the care of children who had lost one parent, and by this relief to enable the surviving parent to work more advantageously, and contribute weekly a small sum for their board. A basement room was hired in White street, and the Asylum thus opened received four children. In May the number of children had increased to fifty-nine, and a house was hired in Twelfth street. In April, 1837, the Society was incorporated under the name of 'The Society for the Relief of Half-Orphan and Destitute Children in the City of New York.'

"Mr. James Bowman was one of its earliest and most liberal friends. Through his means in 1839 the Society was enabled to purchase a house covering two lots of ground in Tenth street, and known as the Nicholson house. The children were taken to this building in May of the same year. The number of inmates continued to increase, and at the end of three years the building in Tenth street proved too small and inconvenient. Four liberal donations of five thousand dollars each, enabled the Trustees to purchase two lots on Sixth street, adjoining, in the rear, the property in Tenth street. Here a building was put up, to which the Asylum was removed in 1842. The Tenth street building was occupied partly as a nursery and partly rented. Fifteen years later it was again found necessary to enlarge the accommodations, and the Asylum was removed in May, 1857, to the building which it now occupies, No. 69 West Tenth street. This building stands on the site of the original Tenth street house and two adjoining lots, which

were purchased in 1854. The Asylum is comfortable and commodious, and though not including all the improvements found in more recent buildings, is well adapted to its purpose. It is ninety-five feet front by fifty-seven deep, and four stories in height. There is an inclosure in the rear ninety-one by sixty-six, which is flagged and used as a playground. In the basement is a play-room fifty by sixty feet, besides laundry, drying, bath and furnace rooms. On the first floor are kitchen, dining, sewing, matron's, and committee rooms and pantries. On the second floor are school rooms and nursery. On the third and fourth, sleeping rooms and infirmary. Two hundred children can be accommodated in it. During some years two hundred and thirty or more have been received, but experience has shown that so large a number is undesirable, and of late has not been necessary, as the number of institutions for the care of children has greatly increased.

"It is forty years since the Asylum was opened, and it may well be considered one of the established institutions of the city. There are no incumbrances on the property, which is held by a Board of Trustees. The internal affairs of the Asylum are superintended by a Board of Ladies.

"The current expenses are met from the payment of board by the parents, annual subscriptions, donations, occasional legacies, rents from the Sixth Avenue building, and the proportion of the public school fund. There are now one hundred and ninety-four children in the Asylum. Since the opening of the Asylum three thousand four hundred and sixty-three children of various nationalities, grades and religion, have been received, cared for and instructed. The cost of each child, including all expenses, averaged in 1875 a little less than seventy-five dollars. On Sunday the children attend morning service at the Church of the Strangers, Rev. Dr. Deems, where they have been regular attendants for over thirty years. In the afternoon a Sunday-school is held at the Asylum, which is superintended and taught by volunteer teachers from different churches."

The total number of children received during the past year was sixty-four, and the total number discharged one hundred and two. Of the latter, one was placed out by adoption, eighty-three were returned to parents or guardians, two left without permission, two were transferred to other institutions, nine were sent out of the State, four were otherwise discharged, and one died.

The total expenditures during the year were \$23,285.25. The value of its personal estate and invested funds is set down at \$27,000.

ST. BARNABAS' HOUSE.

New York.

The St. Barnabas' House is located at 304 Mulberry street. Its object is to afford a home for homeless women and children who are taken in at any time of the day or night, unless intoxicated or known to be fallen women.

The institution was established in 1863, by Mrs. William Richmond, of New York, who for over two years conducted its affairs without public aid. In 1865 its management was transferred to the Protestant Episcopal City Mission Society, which has since directed its operations. The financial affairs of the institution are controlled by a committee of gentlemen. Its internal and domestic concerns are managed by the Sisterhood of the Good Shepherd, whose services are voluntary. Five Sisters were engaged in the work on the day of visitation, October 12, Sister Ellen being in charge of the house. A housekeeper, a dining-room girl, a cook, a laundress and a doorkeeper are employed; also two nurses for the day nursery. Sister Ellen gave us the following information regarding the work: "Our domestics are generally women who desire to reform. They come into the house as the other women, desiring employment. We receive them, make a home for them while they remain with us, and procure for them suitable places. The rest of the work is done by those who are waiting for places. Our rule is, that all who are admitted are expected to work. They usually comply with the requisition, and we notice that the women seem to be elevated by the influence to which they are subjected while with us. To take them in we require no references whatever, except to inquire whether they ought to be at the midnight mission. We do not mix the innocent with the guilty. If they come back to us after we have found places for them, we require satisfactory letters from their late employers. It gives them a chance, if they do well, to get on. A great many have been coming and going for five, six and even seven years, who find here a home again, where they are safe and where they can be provided with situations."

In addition to the class of women spoken of, the house, on the day of visitation, had under its shelter seventeen children, whom the Sister called "house children." They are not given over to the institution. The parents are at liberty to remove them at any time. Although unable to provide for them, they are unwilling to surrender them to the institution. Children are not usually taken in under four years of age.

In connection with the house is a Day Nursery for the care of little children whose mothers during the day are away from home. They are admitted at seven in the morning and kept till seven in the evening, during which time they receive their dinner and supper.

The house children are taught to do all kinds of work, sweep, dust, make beds and help to take care of others. The boys at eight years old are transferred to the "Sheltering Arms," on One Hundred and Twenty-ninth street and Tenth avenue. Of the day children, all that are old enough learn to sew. This work is done at regular hours, in classes. They are lost sight of when parents take them away.

Only Protestants are taken as "house children," but children of all religious denominations are eligible to the Day Nursery. The children are kept entirely apart from the women.

The institution also extends its charitable work to providing a dinner for numbers of poor families, who bring vessels daily to receive and carry it home. The Sister says they have as many as twenty-five such families each day to relieve. Any person coming hungry may get a warm meal, but after that, is visited by the Sisters. One Sister gives up her whole time to visiting.

On the premises is a chapel capable of accommodating about one hundred and fifty persons.

A sewing school for outside children is taught in the house by ladies of the Protestant Episcopal Church, independent of the work of the Sisters. One day they meet the children, and another day the mothers, to teach them sewing.

The house contains a spacious reading-room, under the control of an association of gentlemen. This room is furnished with large tables, writing desks, and comfortable chairs. The walls are brightened with pictures; the room contained nine files of newspapers and a library of about four hundred volumes. The Atlantic, Harper's, Scribner's and Appleton's magazines are sent in regularly as donations.

The play-room for the children is a cheerful apartment, with windows on two sides. In it was a child's toy-house, well filled with toys. Twenty little children were found in the school-room, which was also a very neat apartment, with its furniture suited to the youthful character of the pupils. The children sang for our entertainment, with childish sweetness, "Little Drops of Water." In an upper room we found a number of the small children sitting around a long table, playing with pictures and dolls; a rocking-horse was also provided for those possessing equestrian proclivities. In this room were the day children, under the care of one of the Sisters. There was here a number of little cribs, in which the children could take a nap during the day, two being occupied at the time of our visit. The floors were well scrubbed, and the entire room was in a condition of extreme neatness. The children were clean. The "day children," although returning to their wretched hovels at night, seemed as though they had been brought up in homes of comfort. While expressing our surprise at the fact, the Sister said, "The most of our time is spent in making them tidy."

The dormitory for the "house children" is furnished with single iron bedsteads, two feet four inches wide, straw beds, husk mattresses, and hair pillows. The room was hung with steel engravings, many of them being, we were informed, Christmas presents, which added to the interest of the apartment.

A Sister sleeps in a room adjoining the children's, so as to be at hand if any should need her presence during the night. Each child has its own towel. The school for the "house children" was adorned with pictures, which were chosen with excellent taste. It also contained a library for the children.

The sleeping apartments for the women we found to be very clean. "The accommodations are not," the Sister says, "sufficient for the work that is being done." The house is an old one. The lot, however, is sufficiently roomy to admit of larger and more commodious buildings.

The total number of persons received in the house during the past year was 1,687, and the number discharged, 1,690. It is stated that the number of inmates received gives but a faint idea of the number assisted. This will be made somewhat apparent by the statement that 118,411 meals were furnished during the year. There are from thirty-five to forty families who send to the house daily and receive one or two meals in baskets or pails. These are people truly worthy, whom the Sisters visit regularly, and assist to what is most needed.

The total expenditures of the institution during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$11,358.79. Its total indebtedness was \$17,000. It has no invested funds. There is so little work procurable, and so many out of employment, that the admissions to the house are unusually large, and the efficient working of this worthy and prudently managed charity calls for more means to enable it to cover the field which so urgently needs its benefactions.

Ladies wishing to enter the Order of the Sisters are required to make a visit to the institution of a month's duration. Then, if their desire remains unchanged, they are invited to prolong their visit five months more, during which time they discharge all the duties of the Sisters, and are subject to the same rules, with the exception of wearing a habit. If they are satisfied with the work, and are deemed suitable for the life of a *Religieuse*, a further period of eighteen months is necessary before they are admitted, thus making the period of their novitiate cover two full years. There is no vow taken, but they are expected to devote their lives to the work, unless peculiar circumstances arise making it in accordance with their duty to withdraw. There is another class of ladies who come for stated periods of six months as visitors, who do not contemplate joining the Sisterhood. These take the place of Sisters, enabling them to rest and recruit their health, and prove a very grateful source of assistance.

ST. JOSEPH'S ORPHAN ASYLUM.

New York.

This Asylum has for its object the maintenance of orphan, half-orphan, homeless and neglected children, especially those of German origin. It was organized in 1858, and incorporated April 15th, 1859, by special act of the Legislature.

The particulars of its history are thus stated: "In the years 1848 and 1849, the Missionary Fathers of the Most Holy Redeemer, who visited the different hospitals and poor-houses in the city of New York and vicinity were often called upon to take charge of orphan children, especially those of newly arrived emigrants, or children whose parents were sick and unable to support them. The Missionary Fathers at first arranged for the care of these children in a private family living in a tenement house in Thompson street, their expenses being paid by the churches of the Most Holy Redeemer and St. Alphonsus, but their number kept increasing so fast that other provision became a necessity. In 1857 the Rev. Joseph Helmprecht commenced to organize a society for the support of the orphan children, and was so successful, that with the assistance of the congregations of the two churches already named, he was enabled to purchase the ground where the St. Joseph's Asylum is now located. A charter was then secured from the Legislature, a building erected costing \$36,000, and orphans, half-orphans, and children whose parents were, for various reasons, unable to give them a home, were admitted. The Asylum at its completion was given over to the management of the Sisters of the Order de Notre Dame, who have since that time had its care."

The institution was visited October 9th. Its location is on Eighty-ninth street, corner of Avenue A, near the East river. The tract of ground belonging to the Asylum contains about twenty-eight lots. The building is of brick, plain but substantial, with a tin roof. In the basement are the kitchen, dining rooms and laundry. In the first story, two school rooms, two parlors, the chapel and private rooms. In the second story are two large general sitting rooms for the children, the bathing rooms and the sleeping rooms for the Sisters and waiters. The third and fourth stories contain the sleeping rooms for the children. This building was erected in 1860. A plain, two-story, frame building is also on the grounds, which contains twenty rooms, of which three are used for small children, two for patients, and one for a work-room. The basement is used for wash-house and bakery.

On the day of visitation the Asylum was in charge of Sister Hyacintha, assisted by fourteen others, Sisters of the same Order. The number of children then sharing the benefits of the institution was stated to be about two hundred. They are admitted from two years

old upward. Both boys and girls receive a good practical education in English and German, and are trained to habits of industry. The boys are exercised principally in out-door work, and the girls in housekeeping; they are also taught both hand and machine sewing. Particular attention is given to singing, and a very good choir is formed from among the children. At the age of fourteen the boys are put out to learn trades, and continue to be the wards of the Asylum till their trades are learned and they are started in life.

The dormitories are furnished with single, iron bedsteads, and with clean and comfortable beds. The day of our visit being Saturday, the Sunday clothes of the children were being orderly arranged, in this department, for the morrow.

The stairways are protected by a wire screen above the rail of the balustrades, so arranged that the little ones cannot fall over.

The bathing accommodations are ample and well regulated.

In the dining-room the boys are separated from the girls by a partition, sufficiently high to serve the purpose of a screen. Crockery-ware and knives and forks are used. The larger children have napkins at meals, the smaller, bibs.

The house in the yard, apart from the main building for the smaller children, is called the "Babies' house."

On our entering, the children sang in German, "Praised be the Lord Jesus," which we were informed is their usual custom of greeting strangers.

The grounds about the building are neatly kept. The boys are trained to garden culture.

Six milch cows, belonging to the establishment, afford a good supply of milk for the children. The dignity of labor was here vindicated by one of the Sisters, whom we found with a little flock of delighted children about her, milking the cows. Our visit, as usual, was unexpected. The table was prepared for the evening meal, and was bountifully spread. The diet is a very generous one. In addition to their regular meals, at four o'clock every day the children all get a slice of bread, made luscious to the childish palate, by the addition of a little molasses.

The house was bright and cheerful and the children seemed well cared for. It was evidently a home of plenty, and there was a naturalness in the demeanor of all those about it that gave it a homelike atmosphere.

On October 1, 1875, the number of children who were orphans was seventy-eight; half-orphans, one hundred and six; and the number who had both parents living was twenty. One hundred and eighty-six of the children were of native, and eighteen of foreign, parentage. The children were mainly from the county of New York. Forty of

the children were wholly or partially supported by friends, and one hundred and sixty-four by the institution.

Since its commencement the Asylum has provided for thirteen hundred and fifty-five children.

The number of children received during the past year was seventy-nine; the number discharged, sixty-nine. Of the latter, six were adopted, eight indentured, forty-four returned to parents or guardians, one left without permission, four were transferred to other institutions, and six died.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$16,829.41. The value of its personal estate and invested funds was \$17,400.

The results of the inspection were very satisfactory. Whether considered as to the condition of the house, the children or the property, the institution is in a prosperous state, while a prominent idea of plain wholesome comfort, so characteristic of the German people, is too marked to escape notice.

ST. MARY'S FREE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN.

New York.

This Hospital was begun in 1870, on a small scale, and has since continued to grow steadily till it has become recognized as one of the indispensable and beautiful charities of New York city. Its present location is at 407 West Thirty-fourth street. As soon as funds for the purpose can be secured, it is intended to build an edifice specially adapted to its use, which shall enable it to extend its sphere of beneficence. It is in the charge of the Sisterhood of St. Mary, an Order of Sisters of the Protestant Episcopal Church. The objects of this Order are "the care of the sick and needy, the orphan and the fallen, and the education of the young."

The visitation was made October 7, at which date there were twenty-five patients under its care. The Hospital is in charge of three Sisters, assisted by two postulants. Their work is entirely gratuitous. A training school for young girls is maintained in connection with the hospital. Certain household duties devolve upon the pupils, thereby relieving the Sisters, who are enabled to give themselves entirely to the work of attending upon the little sufferers. No domestics are employed in the establishment.

The benefits of the hospital are bestowed free of charge. It is devoted solely to the caring for and nursing of the children of the poor, who are received between the ages of two and fourteen years, and sometimes, in special cases, younger. They are sent to the hospital by the physicians, who frequently find at the dispensaries children

that need more careful nursing than can be bestowed upon them at their own homes to insure recovery. Ladies visiting among the poor occasionally meet such cases, and direct them to the Hospital, where they are received without regard to faith, color or nationality. This is the only general hospital in the city for children suffering with acute diseases. No children with contagious diseases are admitted.

The ward for little boys, in the front room on the second floor, is furnished with single, iron bedsteads. Between the beds were little tables, covered with white fancy tidies, on which a profusion of toys were spread, and in the center of the room a low table, also full of toys, with baby chairs surrounding it, where those able to be up, sit and amuse themselves. The beds are two feet four inches wide, and four feet ten inches long. They are high, standing five feet seven inches from the floor, for the convenience of the attendants. A strip of bright carpet was spread through the center of the apartment. Pictures hung on the walls, and toys representing a great variety of domestic animals were on the mantel-piece. Boxes including every conceivable variety of attractive toys were about the room. A little library was here, well stocked with books of fairy tales and other children's stories. Contrivances for holding toys, and which also do duty as dining-tables for such little sufferers as are confined to their beds, were among the hospital appliances. On the wall, at the head of each bed, is a ticket case, as is usual, with the name of the patient and the date of admission; its number is also on the register.

Some of the mattresses are of straw and husks, and others are of hair. Each child is provided with its own towel, wash cloth, brush and comb. "We have been," says Sister Catharine, "providentially preserved from the spread of any contagious disease. We had one case of scarlatina, but we prevented it from spreading to the other children. We have a room for cases that need to be isolated."

One of the patients was a little boy nine years old, who was suffering from hip disease. The Sister said: "He was brought here more than a year ago, upon pillows, and was then unable to stand up. His case was considered hopeless. Now he walks up and down stairs. He came from a German family, in which there were seven other children."

The Hospital possesses a valuable case of surgical instruments, presented to the institution by the Guild of St. Hildreth. This Guild is composed of young ladies from St. Mary's School, in Forty-sixth street.

There is a ventilating shaft between the front and rear wards. The dispensary of the Hospital is on the second floor. The appurtenances of each bed, including its wash cloth, towels, etc., are all numbered to correspond with the beds to which they belong. Between the wards are closets, used for the children's wardrobes.

The ward for little girls in the rear room is furnished neatly and carpeted. Toys, pictures, a library, and a little canary bird, singing cheerily, are some of its attractions. The ward for younger children is on the first floor, and extends the whole length of the house. It was originally a double parlor. Over the mantel-piece was a large Calvary Cross, with the motto, "Nearer, my God, to Thee." Seven cribs for quite young children were in the ward. Six of the children were amusing themselves in bed with toys on trays as we entered.

One of the leading features in this nursery is its cheerful bright aspect and its bewildering display of toys. Four little children in baby chairs surrounded a low table, and were amusing themselves with their playthings. One was building a brick house, another throwing one down, and each seemingly happy in its own work, whether constructive or destructive. Among them was a little girl about four years old, who was born in the West Indies. She arrived on the 26th of March, suffering with hip-joint disease. She was "getting on very nicely," and would, it was thought, recover. A little child, not able to stand, was playing on the floor. A case of club foot, we were informed, had been discharged on the day of visitation. It had been successfully treated and entirely cured.

"It is not intended," the Sister says, "to take chronic incurables. This is a hospital, and not a home for them." Cases which elicited pity met us at every turn. A little boy, sitting in a rocking-chair, had disease of the elbow joints. The dead bone, we were informed, was to be removed. Other and similar cases were awaiting operation. The Sister informed us that generally when the children are admitted they are in such a wretched condition of health that it is necessary to keep them awhile to get them into a proper condition to be operated upon. They are fed on a very nourishing diet.

The carpet in the center of each ward is taken up frequently and the floors purified. The walls are "hard finished," and admit of washing at stated intervals. The wards have fire-places in which fires are kindled, as occasion requires, to change and purify the air. The house is warmed by furnaces.

It is customary, when the doctor is dressing a wound, to surround the bed with a screen to prevent the sensibilities of the other children from being disturbed. When a child is very ill or dying, the screen is also used, that the circumstance may not depress the spirits of the others.

The Sister who has charge of the dressing is, we were informed, thoroughly trained and competent to instruct the postulants that work under her.

In the center of one of the wards is a large doll-house, in which

the children have a miniature hospital, where dolls' legs and arms are bandaged in a serio-comic, pains-taking manner by juvenile surgeons.

The various ingenious expedients resorted to by the Sisters to divert the minds of the little sufferers from themselves, showed the depth of interest that was taken in their welfare. This interest was manifest throughout every ward, in the toys and numerous other objects to engage the youthful fancy. The children able to sit up are dressed in bright-colored garments. The hospital is kept with the most scrupulous neatness, and an air of cheerfulness pervades every part. The work being done here is one that is undeniably lessening public burdens. The humane efforts of the physicians, whose services are gratuitous, and the faithful and self-denying labor of the Sisters cannot fail to command universal sympathy.

It may not be inappropriate here to quote the language of another, recorded after visiting this interesting institution:

"Plain and simply furnished as it is, I felt, while walking through its apartments, that I was treading upon holy ground. I knew it was a house in which my blessed Master delighted to dwell. I knew it was a work, above all others, which He smiled upon. I felt that He was walking among those little beds.

"The hospital requires many things yet to fit it up as it should be. It has neither lands nor endowment.

"In what more appropriate or beautiful manner could parents who have means and desire in some way to honor the memory of a loved and departed child do so than by endowing a bed to its memory in St. Mary's Hospital? Let us carve our monuments to the memory of our loved and departed ones upon living, suffering hearts, rather than upon cold, lifeless marble."

The managers, in their last report, state that during the last two years the work has increased so constantly that a much larger house is a positive necessity, and deem that the time has come when a building of suitable size and accommodations should be undertaken for an institution which, as an efficient agency for relieving human suffering, has already fulfilled the most sanguine hopes of its founders.

The present building is in no wise commensurate with the opportunities for doing good which are afforded by the accumulating demands of the sick poor.

The benefactions of this institution are not confined to the city of New York. At the date of visitation there were in the hospital children from the counties of Columbia, Richmond, Sullivan and Westchester. During the year ending September 30, 1875, the number of patients received into the institution was seventy-five, and the number

discharged sixty-nine. Of these, forty-five had recovered, eight had been improved, seven unimproved, and nine had died.

The total expenditure during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, was \$7,204.97.

ST. STEPHEN'S HOME FOR CHILDREN.

New York.

This Home was organized May 1, 1868, with the object of affording a shelter to needy and destitute children. It is located at 145 East Twenty-eighth street. The work was begun on Second avenue, with a small number of children. Several changes were made previous to the occupation of the present house.

The Home is under the charge of the Sisters of Charity, and supported mainly by collections in St. Stephen's Parish Church. Seven Sisters carry on the work, Sister Frances Xavier being Superior. No domestics are employed.

Children of both sexes are received between the ages of two and thirteen years. They are clothed, fed and instructed, and afterward returned to their friends, or good homes are procured for them.

On the date of visitation, October 7th, there were one hundred and thirty-one children in the house, of which forty-two were boys and eighty-nine, girls.

The number of children received since its organization is six hundred and forty-six, the number received during the past year was seventy-five, and the number discharged fifty-one. Of the latter, four were indentured, forty-one returned to parents or guardians, five transferred to other institutions, and one had died.

The number of orphans in the institution, on the day of visitation, was sixty-five; of half-orphans, fifty-two; of children having both parents living, fourteen. Forty-three were of native parentage, and eighty-eight of foreign. Nineteen were partially supported by parents or friends, and one hundred and twelve by the institution.

The house was very crowded. Beds have to be made in the classrooms at night to accommodate all the inmates, but the Sister says: "The health of the children is remarkably good." One death occurred during the past year from diphtheria — a child of about eighteen months.

In regard to the disposal of the children, the Sister says: "Quite a number of the small children have been placed out by adoption, and they do very well. We rarely bind out a child. We prefer to put it in a family, watch over it, and, if it is not well treated, take it back again. We see that they have good homes. Some we send to the

Industrial School on Forty-second street. Others we place with dress-makers. We always place them with reliable and responsible persons—with persons that will exert a good influence over them. Not one-tenth of the children belong to this parish. There are a few whose parents or relatives pay something toward their board, and a good many whose parents agree to pay, but do not. We keep them till they are fourteen years old. A father, for instance, places his children here, the mother having died. As soon as one of his girls gets so as to be able to keep house she goes back to her father, and keeps house for him, and the family is reunited."

The industrial education of the children is well attended to. All are instructed according to their capacities. Some learn music, others are taught to sew on the machine. "Two," Sister Frances says, "have developed remarkable talent for music. Kind friends have sent them to a boarding school. Another, a boy, has been sent to a college in Canada. We have two boys attending college in Sixteenth street. One is a very bright boy, and it would be a pity not to give him assistance. Two of our boys are in Stewart's, and are liked very well."

The school room was clean and furnished with patent seats and desks. The children sang very sweetly "Roses underneath the Snow." Their average age is eight years. The boys had clean faces and hair neatly combed. The parlor was furnished with both an organ and a piano. A melodeon was also in the house.

The dormitories were clean and furnished with single iron bedsteads, straw beds and feather pillows. The house has good ventilation.

The yard is small, flagged, and has the usual provisions for the recreation of children, including a swing. The walls on each side covered with morning glory, *wistaria* and Virginia creeper, betokened tasteful care, while within the establishment were traces of refinement, the influence of which seemed to be evident in the appearance and demeanor of the children.

Sister Frances has been engaged in the children's work since 1851. Two of the Sisters visit Bellevue Hospital daily, others visit the sick poor of the parish.

The Sisters are zealous in their good work, and the influences brought to bear upon the children are believed to be highly elevating. The house is evidently too small for the field of labor surrounding it, and the institution is deserving of liberal aid, with a view to increasing its benefactions.

ST. VINCENT'S HOME FOR BOYS.

New York.

This institution, partaking largely of the character of a news-boys' home or lodging house, is situated at 53 and 55 Warren street. It was incorporated in 1871, and was formerly called St. Vincent's Lodging House for Boys. It began in 53 Warren street, May, 1870, occupying part of the building, and subsequently grew so as to need the addition of the upper part of the adjoining store. On the day of visitation, October 6th, the Home occupied four floors of 53 Warren street, and the third, fourth and fifth floors of No. 55. At present, its needs are so great as to require still larger accommodations for the numerous class whom it seeks to benefit.

The Home is under the auspices of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and is in the immediate charge of the Rev. John C. Drumgoole.

The dormitories of the Home are furnished with double tiers of iron beds, one over the other. The dining room, having a seating capacity of two hundred, is fitted up with tables and benches, and has ample provision otherwise for the hungry appetites to be satisfied after a day's exposure in the open air. The usual dietary, as given in the words of Father Drumgoole, is as follows:

"For breakfast, bread, butter and coffee, as much as they want. Little extras are also furnished to such as pay the small charge which is intended only to cover the cost, and many avail themselves of the opportunity to add meat, cake, or eggs to this repast. For dinner—which is not so well patronized as the other meals, owing to the boys being at work in different parts of the city—soup of a good quality, as we can testify, or meat and bread, together with coffee. For supper, tea, molasses and bread, and any little extra that may be paid for. It will be seen that the bill of fare does not rival Delmonico's, but to the boys it is superb. Besides there is a great argument in its favor, as will be seen by reference to the prices that are charged: Breakfast, five cents; supper, five cents; lodging, five cents, and washing free."

The boys wash their hands and faces in running water, and wash their feet every night in a trough constructed for the purpose. The wash-room is supplied with looking glasses and other conveniences.

The Home contains a gymnasium, chapel and school room, and the boys are taught the common branches of an English education. Their clothes are kept in little boxes, which are a part of the fixtures of a large room.

The aims and spirit of this charity, it is deemed, cannot be better expressed than in the language made use of by Father Drumgoole on the day of visitation:

"The object of the Home is to care for little children. To bring them up and do for them what a humble parent will do for his children, help them till they are able to help themselves. We give them an opportunity to cultivate a spirit of self-reliance and honest industry, and prepare the boy to take his place in society as an upright, honest, industrious and self-supporting man.

"We take in any one, black or white. My idea is to keep a boy till he is able to earn \$6 a week. Then, I think he is fitted to pay his way in a respectable boarding-house, and he will have to graduate from here.

"I have a great many boys for whom I have got situations. They come to me to confession. Some of the worst cases that had ever been in this city, were with me, and have turned out as good citizens as we have. Some of the boys who had been almost a terror to the city, are now holding respectable situations, and would not go back to their former life for any consideration.

"Of course, with Catholic children, the Sacraments of the Church have a great effect. They are taught that they must live well and be faithful to all their relations, to God and their neighbor.

"We keep for them whatever money they get. Some of the little fellows have saved as much as \$70 or \$80. I encourage them to save their money. I do not have a savings bank in the house, but I have about twenty boys in the house that have bank books. I have about one hundred and eighty to one hundred and ninety inmates. In a few weeks we expect to have about two hundred and forty or two hundred and fifty. Last winter we had that number, and some days more. I was obliged to have some of them sleep on the benches in the cold weather. Had I means, I have no doubt I could have thousands of children around me of that class.

"I think it is really our fault that they are not better. Their condition is owing to our own neglect. The little fellows are very easily controlled and brought under religious influence.

"I have over fifty children here under nine years of age. I get attached to them. The boys are healthy, fine little fellows. They are well inclined, and I am trying to do something for them in the way of covering them. All they want is kind words and kind acts, to bring them up and make them an honor to the country. It is our fault, not theirs, if they do not turn out well.

"The very mention of the name of their parents to these little fellows, often makes them grow pale with fear. I find that there is one great thing that they possess when prepared for the Sacrament, and that is, a horror of the state from which they have been rescued.

"Sunday mornings I lecture to them. All the boys that have no homes I look upon as my congregation. I say to them they ought to

be very thankful that God has sent a priest here to care for them ; that if they were princes and had private chaplains they could not be much better off, and that I want them to tell all the little homeless boys, especially all the 'hard cases,' to come, that they are part of my congregation and I am their chaplain. The boys one day met a street lad down town whom they thought was a hard case. They said to him that he ought to go to Father Drumgoole. The boy said 'no ; he would not be willing to let me in.' 'Yes he will,' said the boys ; 'he told us the other day that he wanted all the hard cases to come — that he was their chaplain.' The boys brought him in and came to me and said, 'here, Father, is a hard case.' The boy said, 'Father, if you take me in hand, I'll try to be a good boy, but if it is a hard case you want, you never could scare up a harder one than I am.' It appears that this boy was a regular 'Fagin,' and had under his training, for pickpockets, over twenty boys. He now holds a very responsible position in the city of New York, and he has said to me 'Father, I would rather die than go back to that state.'

"I tell the boys that they ought to take great pride in the fact that they are American citizens. If they are only faithful to God they must be faithful citizens.

"When the little fellows get under the influence of religion, it is extraordinary how it restrains them from wrong-doing. A little boy came to me one time and said, 'Father, I was down to the market and I saw a gentleman with his pocket-book hanging out of his pocket, and I was so tempted to steal it, but I thought of what you told me on Sunday about hell, and I did not take it.' Another will come and say, 'I was down town yesterday and a market-woman went away and asked me to take care of her little money-box, and while she was away I was going to make a drive at it, but just then I recollected what you told us, and did not. Father, I kept my hands off and I staid there, and when the woman came back, she gave me ten cents for taking care of the box.'

"If I had the means I would not be afraid to undertake to turn out one thousand reformed children every year, that cannot be reached in any other way. I have little theatricals for the boys to amuse themselves with during the winter evenings. Lord Rosberry, an English gentleman who came here to see me, and took a great interest in the work, seemed quite pleased with this feature of it. He said, 'You have the theater to capture the little fellows' bodies, and then you have your chapel to capture their souls.' We get a great many children from poor widows who have four or five children on their hands. I have known them to have as many as eight, and no way to support them but by going out to work. They leave home about seven o'clock in the morning. The oldest of the family, nine or ten years of age,

has to stay at home to take care of the younger ones. They run about all day, learn bad habits and imbibe bad morals. I want a place for these poor women's children, where they may remain till their mothers come for them in the evening, where I may have the assistance of the Sisters, who can take charge of them. Then we will be able to bring up a superior class of children. Protestants even now come here and say, 'I want one of your boys.'"

Routine of the day.—"The boys are called at six o'clock. They assemble in the room down stairs. I meet them shortly after six, and we have a little instruction for five minutes on the principal mysteries of religion. I have to give it in small doses. After that we have morning prayers. Then they have breakfast, and are out of the house by seven o'clock, except my little orphans. They all attend to whatever little business they have. I tell them I do not want any beggars around me. The boys come in at five o'clock, and the great majority of them are in bed by nine. I have fifty orphans now. Some of them will make very bright young men. Some of the boys now attending the Commercial College began at my evening school."

The whole number of boys that have been admitted to this institution during the year ending September 30, 1875, was 2,415. The total expenditures during the same period were \$12,995.

The visit made to the St. Vincent's Home for Boys left the impression upon the mind that a great amount of good was here being accomplished. The vast number of idle boys that are growing up in the streets of New York, and swelling from year to year the ranks of the "dangerous classes," seem to require the fullest possible exercise of every existing benevolent agency, the efforts of which are directed toward their elevation. Father Drumgoole is endeavoring to benefit this class in his own way, and, it is believed, with very successful results. He regards it as indispensable that those neglected boys should be brought under strong, moral influences, and thinks that little can be effected in the way of real reform without implanting in the youthful mind positive religious convictions. He is laboring to this end; is thoroughly in earnest, and exhibits a devotion to his work worthy of emphatic commendation. It is to be hoped that this worthy laborer in the Master's field will soon have better facilities furnished him to widen the scope of the institution under his immediate charge. While there is a single boy left to grow up in neglect in the streets of New York, it is neither for the interest of the municipal authorities, nor her merchant princes, to spare money or means to provide in the best possible manner for his proper training or reformation.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

New York.

The object in organizing the St. Vincent de Paul's Industrial School was to afford young girls of limited means an opportunity for learning useful trades under Christian influences, thereby saving them from the dangers to which they would be exposed while acquiring a remunerative means of subsistence in large city establishments.

Girls are received from the age of twelve upwards, and in addition to their industrial training, receive daily two hours of English tuition. Their religious and moral edification is held to be of paramount importance, and every incentive to successful application is employed by the Sisters in the effort to send forth from the institution a class of young women possessed of the means of maintaining a position of respectability and usefulness in society.

Plain sewing, embroidery, dress and cloak making, the use of the different sewing machines now in vogue, and domestic economy are all taught.

A charge of \$135 per annum is made for those who can afford it; a lesser amount is accepted from others, while a large number of worthy girls, who can pay absolutely nothing, are received gratuitously and share the benefits of the institution equally with the rest; the inmates not knowing who are subjects of charity and who pay.

The small sum of \$135 a year for all their expenses, washing, stationery, etc., included, makes the work a charity even to those who pay, but the Sisters have in mind the imparting of its benefits to poor young girls free of all charge whatever, as soon as their means will admit.

The institution is located at 343 West Forty-second street, in the city of New York. The building, erected in 1865, is a plain, substantial brick edifice, covering an area of 100 feet by 70 feet, and is 60 feet high. There is a fine cellar, an over-ground or English basement, and four clear stories, besides the attic story. The basement contains spacious refectories, sculleries and kitchen. The first story proper, a chapel, two parlors, a large assembly room for the community, an office, and a number of fine class-rooms. The second story, a large study hall, music rooms, class-rooms, etc. The third story, sewing rooms, infirmaries, clothes rooms, etc. The fourth and fifth stories, a series of dormitories. Should any contagious disease appear among the pupils, perfect isolation can be secured in a comfortable well-lighted attic room. The institution can accommodate two hundred pupils. The entire building is heated by hot-air furnaces, and the ventilation is excellent. The toilet room is provided with baths, and

there are also bathing accommodations attached to the infirmaries and other parts of the building.

The work was begun in 1856, in two dwelling-houses located on Seventh street, between First and Second avenues. Five Sisters were placed in charge, and the school rapidly increased from two to thirty; but the large rent and the incompetency of the pupils for the work procurable, caused much embarrassment. In 1857, it was resolved to purchase four lots, and to erect on two of them a suitable building. The corner-stone of the same was laid March, 1858, and in September of that year the school was removed to its present location. Its increasing numbers soon necessitated an addition, which was finished in 1865.

A visitation to this institution was made October 20, in company with Commissioner Hogue. Twenty-five Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity of Mt. St. Vincent, were then engaged in the work, Sister Mary Beata being in charge. Ten domestics are employed.

The work rooms were conducted with system and regularity. About sixty sewing machines were in use. One class of girls was making clothing and cloaks, and another was engaged on fine and fancy sewing. Nearly all were working for the shops. The Sister informed us that they are taught not only to make but to cut out the garments.

The dormitories were neat; the beds were well made up. This work is done by the girls, each attending to her own bed. Feather pillows are used, and both hair and straw mattresses; the several beds having one of each. The bedsteads are single, and of iron. Their average width is about two feet five inches.

The rest of the house was equally precise and orderly in its appointments, and among other features of interest are a pleasant chapel, recreation rooms and a well-selected library.

On October 1, 1875, the number of girls in the institution who were orphans, was fifty-one; the number of half-orphans, seventy-three; and the number of children who had both parents living, was twenty-two. Twenty-four were of native parentage, and one hundred and twenty-two of foreign. The children were principally from the county of New York, a few from Kings, and nine from the State of New Jersey.

It is thought by many, that much of the misery and many of the social disorders that afflict society are clearly traceable to the lack of industrious habits in young women, whether they remain single or enter the marriage relation. The training necessary to the formation of these habits, unless received under high moral influences, is likely to be attended with danger. Many young persons, while debarred from all such industrial training in their poverty-stricken homes, can-

not obtain it elsewhere, unless under circumstances likely to destroy true womanly delicacy. To obviate this, institutions like that of the industrial schools of these good Sisters have grown into existence, and it would seem they should be welcomed as an additional safeguard thrown about those who need protection.

THE SCHOOL SHIP "MERCURY."

New York.

The School Ship "Mercury" was visited on October 22d, at which date it was anchored off Hart's Island. It is a full-rigged ship of eleven hundred and fifty-six tons burden, and was under the command of Captain Frank F. Gregory, U. S. N.

This ship was purchased by the city of New York at a cost of \$35,000, July 1, 1869, and placed under the charge of the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction. After undergoing repairs in the dry dock, on the 3d day of July she was removed to Hart's Island, where such internal alterations were made as would adapt her to the uses contemplated in her purchase. Quarters were provided for some three hundred boys, together with her complement of officers and seamen.

On the first of September the ship being reported ready for the reception of the boys, fifty were sent on board from Hart's Island, and the ship duly put in commission.

It is intended to be a reform school for boys who are unmanageable at home, and for others guilty of petty delinquencies. These are in part committed by the magistrates, but mostly by the Commissioners of Public Charities and Correction. No definite length of time for their detention is fixed. They are frequently held at the option of their parents or guardians.

From the Captain on board we obtained the following information relative to the ship and its workings:

"The officers of the ship consist of First, Second and Third Officers, Instructor, Surgeon and, when in port, two Chaplains. Boys are received at all ages between twelve and twenty-one. There is no regular time for keeping them. I have shipped twenty-three boys into the navy, but I cannot tell how many have entered the merchant service from the ship. None have entered this year. We are constantly meeting boys that have been on the ship, who are now in the merchant service. The boys that do well on the ship and obey its rules, almost invariably go into the merchant service. The fact is recognized that these boys make as good sailors as any others. My opinion is that the discipline of the ship is valuable to the boys, and that many of the

lads that are now sent to the workhouse should be sent here. We have had boys here this last year, some of whom had been sent up to the workhouse for trivial offenses that can be cured here, but cannot be cured there. I have seen little boys in the penitentiary that fairly made my heart bleed. We had but three boys, out of three hundred on this ship, sent for misdemeanor. When the school-ship was first organized, they sent boys here for serious offenses, and the ship got a bad name. Now, the class of boys we have are very different. They are those whom parents cannot well manage at home, and they send them here for discipline. All that is necessary to make the school-ship a success is for the judges to practice a little discrimination in the class of boys they send here. I can generally tell the character of every boy that comes on board the ship, by looking into his face. Orphan boys, or even boys who are not orphans, that have been picked up for such little offenses as swimming around the docks, should be sent here instead of to the workhouse.

"Sending a boy to the penitentiary is certain moral death to him. Very few come out of it who are not ruined. It is not the prisons that we want multiplied, but the reformatories."

A register is kept on board entitled "Record of admission, progress, discharge and subsequent history of the pupils of the School-ship Mercury." The register is designed to show the particulars of their commitment, whether or not board is paid, their progress in seamanship and scholarship, whether discharged, deserted or transferred; also their subsequent history.

The captain says: "The subsequent history of these boys is very hard to get at." Very little of it appears upon the records.

"The boys are called at 5:30 A. M. The first thing in order is the washing of the decks, then the washing of themselves. Breakfast is partaken of at 7:30. After breakfast the brass work is polished and the ship generally is cleaned. At 9, a general muster to the drum beat takes place. The boys are then examined and reported to the captain. At 9:30 A. M. one watch goes down to school; the other remains on deck. The watch that goes below in the forenoon must be on deck in the afternoon, and this alternation goes on the year through.

"At sea," says the captain, "in our winter cruises, we have regular classes in navigation. But all must have passed decimal fractions before they can enter it. Some of the boys take hold of it very quickly, but no one gets up as high as a mate. A man must have experience before he can be a mate.

"Our instruction is of a practical nature. We give them sufficient knowledge of navigation to enable them to rise to be mates of ships if they improve their opportunities. We have school every day except Saturday and prayers every evening. Each boy, before retiring,

is compelled to kneel and repeat his prayers, whatever they may be, according to his own creed.

"We can accommodate, comfortably, two hundred and sixty-five boys. We have had on the ship three hundred and ten, but that is too many; it is more than any one man can do to look after so large a number."

At the time of our visit, one of the lads was in irons, having been so placed in consequence of an assault with a knife upon one of the subordinate officers.

In regard to discipline, the captain says: "One of the greatest helps toward maintaining discipline is, that every one that comes here, before he is fifteen minutes on board, will be posted by the older boys as to what he has got to do. Sometimes we resort to corporal punishment; but very rarely. Since the first of last November, we have punished two. Some of them got drunk in the West Indies, and I disciplined them for example's sake.

"One of the hardest punishments that we have is to make the boys that have misbehaved during the day stand in a line and not allow them to talk to one another while the others are at play. I like it better than any other kind of punishment. Another aid to discipline is promotion on deck. If a boy behaves himself well and makes progress in seamanship, he is made a petty officer.

"Fourteen of the boys who were transferred from the ship to the United States Navy had," the captain said, "just returned from a three years' cruise in the Mediterranean. They did first rate. Some of them have between two and three, and some four hundred dollars saved. Now the great problem is what to do with these boys. They have got no friends, and if they do not rejoin the navy, I do not know what will become of them. A good many who are sent to sea never make sailors."

The captain, on being asked about the conduct of the boys at sea, said: "We have been in storms and they did very well. Off the coast of Madeira we had a severe gale, which blew away our main-topsail. There was not enough left to make a shirt. We had a continuance of the storm for twelve days, culminating on Christmas night, in 1870, but the boys did their duty. We did not get on, of course, as well as with a regular crew of sailors. That would be impossible.

"Our winter voyages are the best thing for the boys. They know there is no such thing as getting away from the ship, and they try to make the best of it, and behave very well. Last winter we had a very prosperous time. We were off the coast of South America. The people on shore were very kind to us. The old planters invited the boys ashore, took them to their homes, and loaded them down with sugar cane."

On the day of visitation, October 22d, there were about two hundred boys on board. The ship was found to be under thorough discipline, and in a condition of cleanliness and order highly creditable to its officers. The boys appeared to be in good health.

It is asserted that it is pretty well understood by the truant boys in New York that a commitment to the School-ship is by no means an event to be desired, and the contingency is held over them by many parents having disobedient children, as a help to family discipline. On the steamer that returned us from the ship,—it being one of the days on which parents were permitted to visit their children,—were a large number of parents of boys who had been committed, as well as some of the boys who had been released from durance. A conversation with several of these parents developed the fact that they were satisfied that their children had been benefited by a detention on the ship. A subsequent conversation was had with one of the boys, whose views were based upon actual experience. The lad was of bright appearance, about fifteen years of age. He said that he thought it was a bad place for boys, because “they learn to use bad language, and to chew tobacco. Tobacco that costs ten cents in the city you have to pay sixty cents for on ship. Besides,” said George with some emphasis, “if you don’t mind what you are about you get the rope’s end.”

The cursory examination of the School, as well as the lack of definite knowledge of the subsequent history of the boys that had been on board, prevents the reaching of any satisfactory conclusions as to the merit or demerit of the system as a means of juvenile reformation.

[Since writing the foregoing report, information has been obtained from official sources to the effect that the School-ship Mercury was put out of commission on the 31st December, 1875, no appropriation having been made on her account. In regard to the boys, those who had relatives and friends were given over to them; those having none were sent to institutions or discharged, being able to provide for themselves.]

THE UNION HOME AND SCHOOL FOR THE EDUCATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CHILDREN OF OUR VOLUNTEERS WHO ARE LEFT UNPROVIDED FOR.

New York.

The history of this charity is thus given by its late Secretary, Mrs. David Hoyt: “The Union Home and School was established immediately after the fall of Fort Sumter. A property on Fifty-eighth street was purchased by its managers. Toward this purchase the State contributed \$7,000. This locality, after the laying out of the circle by the Central Park Commissioners, being considered too valuable for an in-

stitution, building materials being very expensive, and the house not large enough to accommodate the ever-increasing number of applicants, the managers, whilst looking out for another site, bought twelve acres of ground and a large frame building at Deposit, Delaware county, keeping the house on Fifty-eighth street as a reception house. The place at Deposit they occupied only a year, finding it difficult to keep it under such strict supervision as they wished. Unwilling to trust their little charges to hirelings, they bought, when offered to them, the mansion formerly rented by the Colored Orphan Asylum on Eleventh avenue. They met with many difficulties. Another institution of the same nature was started in opposition a year afterward, and the two became confounded in the public mind. During the war adventurers like the notorious Col. —, took up ostensibly the cause of the soldiers' orphans, and went about with a small company in uniform, collected a great deal of money, but were discovered to be impostors. This made the task the ladies had undertaken the more difficult. But right always prospers in the end, and the Union Home and School bravely fought its way through 'good report and evil report,' contending for justice, merely obliging strict monthly accounts to be made of expenses, and quarterly statements to be submitted to its Advisory Committee. Keeping rigidly out of debt, it has by plain figures and statements silenced its interested adversaries. The institution removed in 1868 to One Hundred and Fifty-first street, having, with money raised by the sale of their six lots of land in Fifty-eighth street, bought the 'Field Mansion' with ten lots of ground on Eleventh avenue, corner of One Hundred and Fifty-first street, its present location."

This institution was organized May 22, 1861, and incorporated April 22, 1862. Its charter was amended March 30, 1866. It is situated on One Hundred and Fifty-first street and Eleventh avenue, in the city of New York.

On date of visitation, October 22, we found about one hundred and seventy children within its doors. About sixty of these were girls. The average age of the boys, we were informed, was eleven, and that of the girls about the same. The number of inmates received during the year ending October 1, 1875, was seventy-four; the number returned to parents or guardians was seventy-one. One was transferred to another institution and one died. Children are received quite young, but not over fourteen years of age. None but the children of soldiers are admitted. Some of them have both father and mother living who are too poor to support them. "We do not," says the matron, Mrs. E. B. Hull, "propose to keep them over sixteen years of age. They are then either placed in the hands of their friends, or we find homes for them. The girls are taught to do housework and to sew on the machine. Our girls are smart in that way and make all

their own clothing. The boys are taught telegraphy." About fourteen were pursuing this study under an instructor on the day of our visit. Two of the boys were then said to be good operators.

The dormitories are furnished with double wooden bedsteads. The dining room tables are provided with benches.

The force of the establishment consists of a matron, two ladies in the sewing room, a cook, two laundresses, a nurse, a person to take care of the boys, who also acts as band-master, and a chambermaid. The girls and boys wash in running water. They dress variously.

The institution is governed by a Board of Lady Managers, aided by an Advisory Board of Gentlemen.

The lateness of the hour upon which the visitation was made prevented a full examination of the premises.

The work of caring for the orphan and destitute children of those who have served the country by the imperiling of their lives in its defense, is an object so well worthy the consideration of the benevolent, as to need no special comment here.

The value of the real estate of the institution, including buildings, fixtures and all appurtenances, is estimated at \$110,000; value of its invested funds, \$5,573.48; its total indebtedness, \$47,500, of which \$45,000 is upon its real estate.

Its total expenditures during the year ending September 30, 1875, were \$24,865.14. Of this there was expended for interest, \$3,150; for salaries of officers, wages and labor, \$7,781.73; for provisions and supplies, clothing, fuel and lights, medicines and medical supplies, \$19,863.58; for buildings and improvements, and ordinary repairs, \$2,502.35; for all other purposes, \$2,499.21.

The receipts during the same period were: From appropriations by Board of Supervisors, \$23,579.65; from donations and voluntary contributions, \$963.82; from all other sources, \$1,060.73.

WARD'S ISLAND.

New York.

Ward's Island was visited October 13, 1875. One of the buildings for the care of the emigrant classes is set apart exclusively for children, and is under the immediate charge of a matron. Children were also found in other departments on the Island. The entire number cared for on the day of visitation was one hundred and fifty-four. Sixty-four of these were in the hospital, where the emigrant women are confined; twenty-four were in the male department; one was in the insane department, and sixty-five were in the nursery. Forty-nine of the nursery children were between the ages of four and eight.

The children appeared to be well cared for. The system adopted is such that they are kept no longer than is requisite to find good places for them. While on the Island, however, such as are able attend school.

WILSON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.

New York.

This institution is situated at 125 St. Mark's Place, corner of Avenue A, in the city of New York. It was incorporated February, 1854. Its object is to give to a class of children, whose parents are too poor to send them to the public schools, instruction in the elementary branches of an English education, and in sewing. The following information, regarding its history, etc., has been kindly furnished:

"The school was commenced in 1853, in a hired room, in an upper story, on Avenue D, between Eighth and Ninth streets, through the efforts of Mrs. James P. Wilson, who became its first directress, and served the society most efficiently until her removal from the city. Its prominent projectors included a number of other benevolent ladies deeply interested in the work. All that section of the city east of Tompkins Square was then called Mackerelville, and was inhabited by a population of the most degraded character. The manifest vice and degradation of the girls connected with these families, many of whom passed their time in the streets as beggars, rag-pickers, etc., seemed to show the necessity of making some effort to Christianize and civilize them.

"This was and continues to be only a day industrial school, the girls returning to their homes at night. The number at first was limited by the lack of accommodations, but has steadily increased, till this year four hundred and eighteen names have been on the books, with an average attendance of two hundred, all of whom are provided with a dinner five days in the week."

At the time of visitation, October 6, the institution was found to be in charge of Miss Emily Huntington. The edifice is a plain brick structure, four stories in height, and fifty by ninety feet. It was purchased in 1869 by the Board of Managers. The basement and fourth story are rented for manufacturing purposes, though the room is needed and could be put to good use in the prosecution of the work if means permitted. A portion of the ground floor is used for a chapel, the remainder is occupied by a nursery, the missionary's room and store rooms. On the second floor are the managers' room, teachers' dining room, dining room for the children, kitchen and sleeping rooms for the matron and teachers. On the third floor are the school-room

and work-room, night refuge and other sleeping apartments. The bath-rooms, etc., are in the basement.

The departments of work in the institution comprise :

First. A day school, open from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., where two hundred girls are, in the morning, instructed in elementary English branches, and, after a hearty dinner, are taught sewing by hand, while making their own garments, which they earn by a system of credit marks, thus preserving them from the pauperizing influence of indiscriminate gratuitous distribution.

Miss Huntington remarks : "The idea is to teach these children whatever they most need to enable them to support themselves. They are very poor. We do not propose to take in any that can support themselves, or that are able to attend the public school. The children received are from a class that cannot afford to attend the public schools. They must be earning their support somewhere. Many of them have nothing except what they get here. We do not *give* them any thing. They must earn it all. They are credited with all they do, and as soon as they earn a garment, and need it, we furnish them with one.

Second. Industrial classes. These are composed of girls from twelve to twenty years of age, who are instructed in dressmaking, family sewing, and the use of sewing and button-hole machines.

Third. Household classes in which the pupils receive instruction in domestic duties. Miss Huntington makes housewifery a school study, and imparts instruction by a system which she has elaborated with much care. Charts containing drawings of the usual articles needed in a home are used. The children learn their names and uses and are examined as to their proficiency by the matron. With this theoretical instruction and the opportunity of carrying it into practice, which is afforded in the institution, it is thought a great deal is accomplished toward rendering these little girls capable, as they become older, of self-support and of performing valuable service.

Fourth. A night refuge affording comfortable lodging and meals to poor but respectable girls. In the dispensing of this relief, it is found great discrimination needs to be exercised.

Fifth. A mission church organized on the union plan, in 1867 (an outgrowth of the day and Sabbath schools), with its pastor and bible reader, its Sabbath morning and evening services, and Thursday evening prayer meeting.

Sixth. A Sabbath school, organized in connection with the day school, in 1853, and now numbering two hundred and fifty scholars, and open at 2 P. M.

Seventh. A mothers' meeting held for the benefit and instruction of

the mothers of the scholars, every Wednesday, at 1 o'clock P. M., from November to May.

"This institution relies wholly for support on voluntary contributions. Its annual expenditures, with strict economy, amount to \$9,000. Located in the western boundary of the Eleventh ward, which contains a population of 64,230 souls, and embracing in one organization so many branches of Christian labor, its usefulness is only limited by the condition of its treasury.

"It is designed by the managers, as soon as means are provided, to erect on a vacant lot which they own, adjoining the Mission House, a suitable chapel, which will enable them to use the room now occupied by the church as a reading room, much needed for the young men in that neighborhood."

A marked feature in this institution is the pains taken to inculcate a knowledge of housekeeping by a systematic plan of instruction under the personal supervision of the Matron, who is strongly imbued with the importance of this branch of education for young girls, and who has given the subject much thought. Her views are compiled in book form, and are about being published in a series of simple rules adapted to the comprehension of children. Those immediately connected with the school seem to be quite earnest in their efforts, and are accomplishing good results. It is believed that the charity is deserving of liberal support.

The property is a valuable one, but not productive of any revenue.

THE WOMAN'S AID SOCIETY AND HOME FOR TRAINING YOUNG GIRLS.

New York.

The object of this Society is to afford a temporary home for poor and friendless girls, and to impart to them such industrial training of a domestic character as will fit them for situations with which the institution provides them. The rule of the house is, that applicants for admission may remain one month and must take situations approved of by the Matron. This institution is situated at 41 Seventh avenue, at the corner of West Thirteenth street, in a private house. It is governed by a Board of Lady Managers, who have associated with them an Advisory Committee of gentlemen. It has been organized since 1866, and was incorporated in 1870. At the date of visitation, October 11, the institution was found to be in charge of Mrs. R. B. Pierson, Matron, who furnished the following information relative to the aims and work of the society: "This house is for respectable girls only, and for such as are eligible for situations. Its purpose is to save and protect young girls. They generally come in a deplorable condi-

tion, ill-clad, hungry, and greatly needing the use of the bath tub. Their ages range from eight to twenty years. Policemen frequently bring them to the house. Expressmen often direct them here. They occasionally find a girl on the streets out of a situation, who does not know where to go. Sometimes the city missionaries, or the ladies of the institution, send such poor girls here. They come here, and by doing so are saved from going to the cheap lodging houses or to restaurants. In addition to this regular work, the house procures situations for many respectable women, who have an aversion to the regular intelligence office, and who are too old to come in here as inmates."

The house has a capacity for sixteen inmates, which is about the average number. They are coming and going constantly. An effort is made to improve the girls intellectually while in the institution, and pains is taken to surround them with elevating Christian influences. The result of the inspection was satisfactory, and the institution is believed to be a source of amelioration to the multifarious distresses incident to all large cities.

OSWEGO ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Oswego.

The Oswego Orphan Asylum is located in the outskirts of the city of Oswego, about one mile southerly from its center, on a highly elevated piece of ground, from which is obtained a commanding view of the city, harbor and lake.

The edifice is a well-constructed, three-story brick building, measuring sixty-five by fifty feet on the ground floor, and is capable of accommodating between seventy-five and one hundred inmates.

The grounds are well inclosed and contain eight acres of land, which cost \$2,000. The lawn in front of the Asylum is shaded with forest trees. About one and a half acres in the rear are appropriated to garden cultivation, and the remainder to pasture and meadow.

The object of the institution is the support and education of orphans and destitute children. It had its origin in the desire of the benevolent citizens of Oswego to promote the welfare of homeless and neglected children. It is stated that about twenty-five years ago "two gentlemen of Oswego, feeling that something must be done for the destitute children of the place, set themselves earnestly to work to devise ways and means for meeting the emergency. Obstacles, seemingly insurmountable, at first presented themselves; but it was remembered that those children whom orphanage had cast upon the mercies of Christian charity had been, in most cases, distributed among the fami-

lies of the poor and ignorant, who hold only that relation to them which money can buy. There were no loving attentions — money does not buy them — the desire in the heart of every little one, deeper and stronger than that for food, to be loved and cherished and brooded over with motherly tenderness, was never gratified. They were fed, to be sure, as the animal is fed, and for much the same reason. Neglect, and oftentimes downright cruelty characterized their treatment. The noiseless cry of suffering had often gone up from those wretched places, and its silent voice was heard again pleading for help. The emergency of the case urged the matter to be presented to the people, and the charitably disposed readily responded to the call. A small dwelling-house was at first rented and seven children were at once gathered in. This building was occupied from 1852, till the completion of the present spacious edifice in 1856, soon after which the number of children had increased to seventy-four. About this time the managers, with commendable spirit, turned their attention to the unfortunate children in the county poor-house. The authorities had no way but to group the homeless children under their charge in that public receptacle for hardened want, poverty and crime."

This zeal on the part of the managers was met with a corresponding liberality by the Board of Supervisors, and an arrangement was brought about for transferring the children from the county poor-house to the homelike influence and surroundings of the asylum. The spirit manifested by the people of this county in caring for their homeless children is worthy of note. At the date of August 6th, 1875, there was but one child, a young infant, in the county house, and but one child that had passed the limit of three years of age, temporarily sojourning in the Oswego city alms-house. The people of this county deserve great credit for the enlightened and benevolent theory they have put in practice, of looking after homeless children while they are young and susceptible of moral and religious training.

Since the organization of the Oswego Orphan Asylum nearly a thousand children have been the recipients of its benefactions. Many have grown to maturity, and it is asserted "are scattered over the country; some in business life, respectable citizens; some in private homes, secured by the managers, and some lie on the battle fields in the South."

The property of the institution is controlled by a Board consisting of ten Trustees, Gentlemen, and an equal number of Lady Directors. The institution is under the immediate charge of a matron.

On the day of visitation, August 6th, there were fifty-two inmates, thirty-four boys and eighteen girls. Three of these were colored. The children are not dressed uniformly, except on Sundays. They are received at all ages between two and eight years, and are disposed

of as soon as good homes for them can be found. They all appeared healthy, and it was stated that for a year and a half there had been no occasion to call in a physician.

The children receive intellectual, industrial and religious education, compatible with their years. Four hours and a half a day are spent in school, and the boys make themselves useful in carrying water, wood, coal, and doing all the odds and ends of work about the asylum, while the girls render aid in the general house-work. Sewing is taught in school one afternoon in the week. On Sundays all the children attend service in some one of the Protestant churches in the city.

The children come from the city and the adjacent country. Such as are charges upon the county are committed by the Overseers of the Poor, the county paying \$1.50 per week toward their maintenance. Some children are placed in the asylum by widowed mothers, who either pay the entire cost of their support, or such a portion of it as they are able to defray. Six months' trial is allowed in placing out children, and, if both parties are satisfied, the child is adopted or indentured. The younger children are generally adopted. The children are looked after when placed out, and although there is no regular visiting committee, they are heard from in various ways. On this point the matron, Mrs. Julia Wilcox, in reply to our questions, remarked: "We learn about them by making inquiries from the neighbors and from the children themselves. But whether they feel at liberty in all cases to write the truth about themselves or not I cannot say. I think a visiting committee is important."

The dormitories are large, well ventilated, and furnished with double bedsteads of iron, straw beds, snow white counterpanes, and an abundance of blankets and sheets. The windows are double, and the sashes hung with cords, weights and pulleys.

The wearing apparel of the children is made in the house, two seamstresses being engaged for the purpose.

The school room is large and cheerful, furnished with maps, charts, neat desks and chairs. Its furniture, as well as the library of between two and three hundred volumes, was presented by the children of the public schools.

Both boys and girls bathe once a week, each sex having its own bath-room. They wash their faces and comb their hair before going into school, and wash their feet at night.

The elevated location of the asylum renders it difficult to secure an abundant supply of water, and almost the entire dependence is on the rain water, which is saved in a large cistern.

The building is heated by furnaces and stoves, and is well ventilated throughout. The hired assistants sleep on the same floor with the

children, and "are the best that the means of the Asylum will admit of employing." The Matron says she has "no necessity to keep any room in the house under lock and key."

The garden supplies potatoes, beans, sweet corn, onions, squashes, cucumbers, etc., for the institution.

On October 1, 1875, there were in the institution fifty-seven children — three orphans, thirty half-orphans, and twenty-four with both parents living. Six of these children came from Fulton county, and fifty-one from Oswego. Ten were partially or wholly supported by friends, thirty-eight by counties, cities, etc., and nine wholly by the institution.

The number of children received since its organization was nine hundred and twenty-eight. The number received during the past year was fifty; the number discharged, forty-one. Of the latter fifteen were placed out by adoption, and twenty-four returned to parents or guardians. One left without permission, and one was transferred to another institution.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$3,178.91. Its total indebtedness is set down at \$971.07. The value of its personal estate, including bonds, stocks and other investments, from which an income is derivable, is stated to be \$23,386.73.

In view of the earnest workers among the prominent supporters of this charity, the amount of good it has already done to the county, and the results it may yet achieve in the way of saving dependent children, and the consequent reduction of pauperism, it is greatly to be hoped that its sphere of usefulness may not be curtailed for lack of liberal encouragement.

MADISON COUNTY ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Peterboro.

But a short distance from the old homestead of the late Gerrit Smith, stands the orphan asylum which he founded, and in which, when at home, he was accustomed to spend a part of each day during the summer, and a part of one day each week during the winter. The old Academy building at Peterboro was donated by him, with ten acres of land, for this worthy object. It is a three-story frame structure, resting on a high basement of masonry, and is situated in the midst of a lawn, partly shaded with forest trees, forming an extensive play ground. The building stands opposite the village park.

The affairs of the Asylum are directed by the County Superintendents of the Poor. Its finances are controlled by a Board of five Trustees.

On the day of visitation, September 15th, the Asylum was under the

immediate charge of Mr. C. L. Blakeman. He was assisted by his wife, acting as Matron, a lady teacher and two female assistants.

The house is heated by stoves, and lighted, in the children's department, by candles, and in the family part by kerosene. A bountiful supply of water is secured from a spring on the place, and from the rain which is saved. It is not, however, distributed in pipes throughout the building. The ventilation is effected by the windows, which are hung in the old style, with barrel bolts.

In the rear of the main is a frame building which was being finished, the lower part of which is designed for a school, and the upper part for a boys' play-room. The closets are detached, and are some little distance in the rear. An ice house is being constructed.

The basement of the Asylum contains cellar, kitchen, store room and bath rooms for boys and girls; the first floor, reception room, dining room, pantry, family rooms of the Superintendent and girls' play room; the second floor, Superintendent's office, boys' dormitory, girls' dormitory, clothes closets, etc. The third floor is at present used for the school room. It is intended, however, to convert it into a dormitory for the boys.

At the date of visitation there were thirty-one children in the Asylum, only three of whom were girls. "We had," says Mr. Blakeman, "forty children all last winter, but we have been quite successful in putting them out. Our average is thirty-five. With some slight alterations in the rooms we could accommodate some seventy or eighty." The children were all from Madison county. No others, we understand, are admitted. The youngest, on the day of visitation, was three years old.

The health of the children was good. On this point Mr. Blakeman remarks: "They enjoy pretty good health. We have never lost a child since we started. Our doctor's bill does not usually exceed five dollars a year. Last winter, however, a boy broke his leg, which increased the expenses of medical attendance to fifteen dollars. We have had such diseases as measles and mumps, but did not find it necessary to call a physician."

The children bathe every Saturday, and their under clothing is changed every week. The condition in which they come to the house is thus described: "They come in bad shape, nearly all of them. Our custom is to give them at once a good cleaning, and cut the boys' hair short."

While in the Asylum the children receive a good common school education, and are taught to be regular and industrious in their habits. Their religious instruction is carefully attended to. Family worship, with the reading of the Scriptures, is observed every day, and on Sundays the children attend the Sabbath-school of the village church.

The Sabbath-school is held before church service. Any child who wishes to remain for service can do so, but there is no compulsion. The younger children, not able to go to Sabbath-school, are taught in a class at home by Mr. Blakeman.

In regard to the disposal of the children, Mr. Blakeman further says: "Children are kept till they are fifteen years old, unless homes are found for them before that time. We make quite an effort to get them into homes. We have put out seventeen since last November; some into excellent families. Some families it is hard to find out about. We do not let them go, however, without a good recommendation from the best people of the village where the families applying for them reside. They go mostly to farmers. One has gone to a blacksmith. They are to remain till the age of twenty-one, when they are to have a certain amount of money. We make inquiries as far as possible, and take pains to find out about them, especially if we hear that any thing is wrong."

In the reception room is a fine steel engraving of the late Gerrit Smith, also a glass case containing a library of one hundred and sixty odd volumes, presented about a year ago by the Oneida Aid Society. The walls are hung with pictures presented by the people of Cazenovia. The Madison County Bible Society has presented the institution with twenty-five Bibles, bound in Morocco, with large clasps and ribbon book-marks. One is to be given to each child on leaving. The Society further proposes to furnish others as needed.

The dining room was a neatly kept apartment, having painted floors, and was furnished with tables and stools of stained wood. Its walls were embellished with illuminated texts. Crockery ware, spoons, knives, forks and napkins are used by the children at meals. The children were about to partake of their evening meal as we entered this room. The food was wholesome and abundant. Before eating the following verses, composed by a lady of Peterboro, which are intended to teach the children, among other things, table decorum, were repeated, as is their usual custom :

"In silence all of us must meet,
And fold our hands before we eat,
And lift our hearts to God above
In praise for all His wondrous love.
Our mouths with food we must not crowd,
Nor while we're eating speak aloud ;
Must turn our heads to cough or sneeze,
And when we ask, say 'if you please.'
With care our napkins we must fold,
And must not go till we are told ;
And when the bell tells us to go,
We must go quietly and slow."

The dietary is generous. The children have plenty of bread and milk and vegetables throughout the season. An abundant supply of apples for the institution is procured through the custom which prevails of allowing the boys to pick apples on shares for the neighboring farmers.

The kitchen was orderly. In the store-room every thing appeared to be well cared for.

The large dormitories were clean, and furnished with double bedsteads of iron. The beds were of straw, and hair pillows and white counterpanes were used. The bed linen, we were informed, is changed as often as necessary. The provision for ventilating this department was inadequate.

Singing is a feature in the education of the children, and on the day of our visit we were favored by request with a favorite hymn of the late Gerrit Smith, which the children were in the habit of singing for him during his visits to the Asylum, and which, when his ear was no longer attuned to their sweet music, they sang once more as they gathered around his remains on the day of his funeral. This, entitled "Scatter Seeds of Kindness," we give :

" Let us gather up the sunbeams
Lying all around our path ;
Let us keep the wheat and roses
Casting out the thorns and chaff ;
Let us find the sweetest comfort
In the blessings of to-day,
With a patient hand removing
All the briars from the way.

CHORUS.

Then scatter seeds of kindness,
Then scatter seeds of kindness,
Then scatter seeds of kindness,
For our reaping by-and-by.

Strange, we never prize the music
Till the sweet-voiced bird has flown !
Strange, that we should slight the violets
Till the lovely flowers are gone !
Strange, that summer skies and sunshine
Never seem one-half so fair,
As when winter's snowy pinions
Shake the white down in the air !

If we knew the baby fingers,
Pressed against the window pane,
Would be cold and stiff to-morrow —
Never trouble us again —

Would the bright eyes of our darling
Catch the frown upon our brow?
Would the print of rosy fingers
Vex us then as they do now?

Ah! those little ice-cold fingers,
How they point our memories back
To the hasty words and actions
Strewn along our backward track!
How those little hands remind us,
As in snowy grace they lie,
Not to scatter thorns — but roses —
For our reaping by-and-by."

The children have ample recreation. They play base ball, foot ball, croquet and many other games. The opportunities for exercise in the open air are abundant and are eagerly availed of by the boys whose fertile fancies are never at a loss to add new features of pleasure to their pastimes; while the light garden labors of summer, the autumn season with its apple pickings and nut gatherings enable the managers to so combine industry with sport as to make the out-door life of the boys something like a prolonged holiday.

The 4th of July, Christmas and New Year are duly observed. At Christmas there is a tree and a school exhibition, at which time singing and recitations by the children take place, and are a source of enjoyment to them. Much interest is taken in these festivities by the numerous friends of the Asylum.

The garden of the institution covers two acres, in which are raised potatoes, sweet corn, beets, carrots, turnips, squashes, tomatoes, etc.

On October 1st, 1875, there were in the Asylum thirty-five children. Of these nine were orphans, twenty-four half-orphans and two had both parents living. Twenty-six were of native, and nine were of foreign parentage. There were discharged during the year fourteen children by adoption and one by indenture. In addition to these, seven were returned to parents or guardians. The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$3,291.63.

Madison county has made great advances on the alms-house system in providing such a home for its dependent children, and it was gratifying to see them humanely cared for, and an energetic system in practice for restoring them to the privileges of family life. It is well established that the further the care of dependent children is removed from official management, under party control, and intrusted to the private benevolence of the people, particularly ladies, the more elevating and refining are the influences which come into play and which are indispensable in making the children self-supporting and respectable members of society.

The ladies of the surrounding country have already proved themselves valuable auxiliaries in carrying on the work of the asylum, and it is thought that their services might be rendered still more effectual by investing them with some responsibility in the management of its affairs.

HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS OF NORTHERN NEW YORK.

Plattsburgh.

This institution has but recently entered upon its career of usefulness, having been organized March 16, 1874, and incorporated the following May. It originated in the desire of a few benevolent individuals in Clinton county to make more humane provision for destitute children and for a certain class of aged females, than the county house afforded. The enterprise met the prompt approval of the Board of Supervisors of the county, who directed, by resolution passed December 12, 1874, that children henceforth becoming a public charge should be placed under the care of this charity and maintained at the expense of the towns whence they came, until suitable places in families are procured, instead of being subjected to the influences of the county house associations.

A house was purchased by the Society last November, for the uses of the institution. The business affairs of the Home are directed by a Board of Managers. Its domestic affairs are under the immediate charge of a Matron, Mrs. Atkinson. It is supported mainly by voluntary contributions.

At the date of October 1, 1875, the Home contained six children. Its expenses during the year amounted to \$526.01.

The president of the Board of Managers, Mrs. M. K. Platt, says: "Our association, though young and weak, has not been without its salutary influences in this community, and it is most surely growing in interest."

The history of other institutions in the State shows that from even such small beginnings great good has come, and it is to be hoped that the benevolent ladies and others interested in this charitable enterprise, will eventually find their most sanguine expectations realized.

POUGHKEEPSIE ORPHAN HOUSE AND HOME FOR THE FRIENDLESS.

Poughkeepsie.

This Home was the outgrowth of an organization incorporated as the Poughkeepsie Female Guardian Society. In prosecuting their

work the ladies of this society found many children in need of temporary homes. It was with the view of meeting this necessity that the building now occupied was erected and opened to the public, February 22, 1857. Since that time many children have through its agency been provided with good homes, and some are now worthy members of society, with homes of their own. It was incorporated in April, 1852.

The Asylum is governed by a Board of Lady Managers, representing the various Protestant denominations of the city. Its object is to provide a home for destitute and friendless children of both sexes, until they can be committed to the guardianship of foster parents or worthy families, who will train them to respectability and usefulness.

The Asylum edifice stands about fifty feet from the street, having a lawn space in its front. It is a two-story brick structure, with a basement. It is warmed by furnaces, and supplied with water from the city, which is carried to the bath rooms in pipes. Ventilation is effected by the windows, and the house is lighted by kerosene.

Two visitations were made to the institution, one of them in company with Commissioner Eastman.

At the date of the last visitation, October 28, it was in charge of a Matron. She employs a seamstress, care-taker, nurse, cook and laundress. The number of inmates varies from forty-five to fifty. Mrs. J. M. Farrar, the Matron, furnishes the following information relative to the workings of the institution: "There is difficulty in disposing of the boys, but the girls are placed out with comparative ease. The children all come from Dutchess county.

"We could accommodate seventy, by putting two in a bed. But I should prefer to have none but single beds in the house.

"The children go out to Sunday-school, and the greatest punishment I can inflict is to keep one at home. I think the more these children associate with others the better it is for them. It brightens up their ideas, and the Asylum does not seem to them so like a prison as when they stay in one house all the time. It wakes them up."

The Matron expressed herself as decidedly in favor of sending Asylum children to the public schools. She says: "Allowing children to go to the public schools might at first occasion trouble and annoyance, but after the first year, I have no doubt it would be better for them. I judge of this from the good resulting from their attending Sunday-school elsewhere. I judge also by what my own feelings would be if I were shut up in a house for ten months.

"I do not approve of keeping children in an institution a very long time. I have seen the evil effects of this plan before I came here. The children that were put out after a reasonable residence in an institution, I have found did better than those who were kept for four or

five years longer. Boys grow accustomed to being constantly watched, but when they are put on a farm where they work for themselves, they do much better."

Children are put out by indenture after a trial. References are required from the parties who take them, and a careful correspondence is maintained with the children after they are provided with homes to insure their being well treated.

A school is held on the premises under the supervision of the Department of Public Instruction. The Department pays the teacher's salary.

The number of children received into the institution since its organization was eight hundred and sixty-nine; the number received during the past year, twenty-nine, and the number discharged, thirty-two. Of the latter one was placed out by adoption, four by indenture, twenty-one were returned to parents or guardians, and six were sent out of the State. On the date, October 1, 1875, there were remaining in the institution forty-two children. Of these seventeen were orphans, thirteen were half-orphans, and twelve had both parents living. Ten of the children were of native and thirty-two of foreign parentage.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year were \$5,447.29. The value of its personal estate, including bonds, stocks and other indebtedness, is set down at \$40,000.

The house showed evidence of good management. The children were clean and bright, and their intellectual, industrial and religious education seemed to be faithfully attended to.

CHURCH HOME OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN THE CITY OF ROCHESTER.

Rochester.

The Home is located on Mount Hope avenue, amidst healthful and pleasant surroundings. The lot is about one hundred by two hundred feet. The main building stands about a hundred feet from the street. A grass plat, flower beds, ornamental shrubbery and graveled walks set off its approach in front. The building is constructed of reddish sandstone, and is in the gothic style of architecture. It is two stories high, exclusive of basement and a mansard attic, with a frontage of seventy and a depth of forty feet.

The kitchen, laundry and dining room are in the basement. The first floor has a wide hall and contains a parlor, matron's room and seven rooms for old ladies. On the second floor are the chapel and about six rooms for old ladies, also a nursery. On the third floor are the dormitories for the children. An old building in the rear, where

the work commenced, is also used to some extent for a sleeping apartment and a play-room.

An air of extreme cleanliness pervades the house. The walls are tinted, and its varied appointments arranged with exquisite taste.

The ceilings are high. The windows are hung in modern style, and are finished with inside blinds. Water from the city is conveyed to the middle floor; gas fixtures are in the several apartments; and steam radiators heat the entire building.

The dormitories are neat and airy, and furnished with wooden bedsteads of the French pattern. The nurse's room is between the boys' and girls' dormitories, and communicates with both. It is a rule of the house that the doors opening into the dormitories shall be left open at night, in order that she may hear if any thing is wrong.

Each child is provided with a little place for its clothing, and, as an incentive to order and tidiness in the care of their apparel, the ladies distribute prizes to the meritorious candidates. Three hundred credit marks entitle one to a prize. The marking is done by the nurse, who gives a credit mark to every child whose clothes are found in their proper place, and a bad mark to those who keep them disorderly.

The lavatory is a large room, eighteen by twenty feet, fitted up with basins and hooks. Each child old enough to use them, has a towel, tooth brush, comb and brush. The bath-room is in the basement. The children bathe once a week.

On the day of our unexpected visit we were so fortunate as to find the Board of Lady Managers holding one of their regular meetings at the Home. To Mrs. D. M. Dewey, the President, and the other ladies present, we are indebted for much of the information relative to the aims and workings of the institution.

The work of the Home is dual in its character. First, in sheltering, educating and elevating poor and needy children, of whom there were on the day of visitation thirty-five, twenty-seven boys and eight girls. Second, in offering a quiet retreat to friendless but deserving members of the Protestant Episcopal Church, where in their declining years they may have their wants cared for, and enjoy the consolations of religion. Fifteen inmates of this class were provided for at the time of our visit.

"We take," the ladies say, "the children of families where the mother is sick and the father obliged to be out at work. Many of our children are motherless. Men by the death of their wives are often left with a family of children on their hands, and our Home comes to their relief. About six of the children have been adopted by the Home. We call them our own. The others are mostly boarders. We generally charge one dollar per week. Sometimes more is paid. We take children without regard to the religious faith of their parents, but we place them under the Christian influences of our own church. We

aim to do the largest amount of good possible to all classes of children. Our house is full. We feel that we are accomplishing a great deal of good.

"When we take children we pledge ourselves to keep them till we shall find for them homes where they will be well taken care of in families belonging to the Protestant Episcopal Church."

A school, under a competent teacher, is conducted on the premises, where the children receive an education suited to their tender years. One of the boys, we were informed, was so far advanced as to be looking forward to entering De Vaux College.

Great care is taken in the selection of all who come in contact with the children, and none but members of the Protestant Episcopal Church are chosen to fill the principal offices. The nurses, we were informed, are of the better class, and the Matron is expected to be a lady of education.

Each child, the ladies say, is washed and undressed below stairs, and when they are ready to say their prayers they come up to their dormitories. Here they find their prayer books in little bags hung at the heads of their beds, opening which they kneel down by their bedsides, and repeat their prayers in unison. The ladies say it is a pretty sight. They use the Prayers for Children framed by the late Bishop Lee. These are compiled in a little volume in large type, short and very simple. The prayers are for the following occasions: For morning and evening of each day of the week, for all the festival days of the Episcopal Church, for a birthday, prayer for sickness and recovery, and for absent parents; thanksgiving for a safe return, prayers for a sick parent, brother or sister; prayer after death of a parent, brother or sister, companion or school-mate, minister or Sunday-school teacher; prayer for a disobedient child, for a child who has told an untruth, and prayer for a very young child.

The same volume also contains a few simple morning and evening hymns, the Lord's Prayer in rhyme, and others equally simple and beautiful.

On the first and the third Friday in every month parents and guardians are permitted to visit their children in the Home.

The rooms for the old ladies appeared very comfortable and cosy. They are furnished by different parties; two were shown, one furnished by Mrs. Hiram Sibley, of Rochester, the other by Mrs. Henry Anstice. The chapel is a neat little apartment, appropriately furnished for religious worship.

The health of the children was good. The ladies said: "None of the children have sore eyes. We place any such at once under medical treatment. If children are sickly on coming here, they soon get strong and healthy. We give them plenty of milk."

Care is taken to have some responsible person always with the children. On this point the ladies say: "The children are never left alone. The nurse is always with them, unless they are in school. They are not allowed to leave the school-room till the nurse comes for them."

Of the thirty-two inmates of the Home, October 1, 1875, four were orphans, twenty-two half-orphans, and six had both parents living. Five were of native parents, and twenty-seven of foreign. Twenty were partially supported by parents or friends, six by public authorities, and six wholly by the institution. Twenty-seven were from the county of Monroe, three from the county of Wayne, and one each from Steuben and Yates. The number of children received during the year was ten, the number discharged, fifteen. Of the latter, three were placed out at service, ten returned to parents or friends, and two died.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30, 1875, were \$4,478.51. Its total indebtedness, being upon the real estate, was \$3,000.

The work of this institution, though comparatively limited, is so satisfactory, and the influences to which the children are subject so refining and elevating, as to make one wish that its capacity were largely increased to admit to a share in its benefactions the many neglected and homeless children still uncared for.

"This institution originated in a desire of the members of the Protestant Episcopal Church to provide an asylum for the destitute, especially for those of their own faith. At the time of its organization the various charitable institutions of the city were pretty generally filled, and a need seemed to be felt for greater provision for the unfortunate. In 1868, Mr. George R. Clark and Mr. George E. Mumford purchased a house and lot on Mount Hope avenue, at a cost of \$5,300, and donated it to the Association, which had then been organized." It was soon found that this building was too small to meet the demands upon the Association, and an appeal made to the various Episcopal Churches resulted in very liberal contributions, enabling the Board of Trustees to erect the present appropriate and commodious edifice, at a cost of about \$22,000, leaving it ready for occupation in 1869, incumbered with but a small debt. The finances of the institution are intrusted to a Board of Trustees, and a Board of Lady Managers direct and control its work. The immediate charge of the Home is committed to a matron.

EXCELSIOR FARM AND HOUSE OF INDUSTRY FOR BOYS.

Rochester.

Excelsior Farm is located about three and a half miles from the city post-office, on the river road to Lake Ontario, and on the west bank of the Genesee river. The situation is salubrious and the surroundings are delightful.

The farm consists of about forty-two acres of choice land, stocked with a great abundance of fruit trees and vines, and peculiarly adapted to fruit raising and gardening.

The main building consists of what was formerly a spacious farm-house, having a lawn frontage with ornamental shrubbery, shade trees and flowers, the lawn being intersected by a graveled walk. There are spacious barns and out-buildings upon the place. The whole seems embowered among fruit trees and vines, which give it an air of plenty. To the farm-house has recently been added a frame addition for the accommodation of the lads who make this retreat their summer home. It is contemplated to erect further buildings adapted to the needs of this promising charity. The institution is under the management of five Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of St. Joseph, Sister Gertrude being Superior. A gardener is employed to direct the agricultural labor of the boys, and an engineer is engaged in the canning department.

The average number of boys during the summer is thirty. At the date of visitation, September 2d, the summer's work had begun to slacken, and the majority had returned to St. Mary's Asylum in town, leaving but fourteen in the house. The Sister in charge says: "The boys here are those that have grown up with us in the St. Mary's Orphan Asylum. They came out here for the summer, and will return to the asylum, after the work here is finished, to attend school during the winter. Their ages range mostly from fourteen to eighteen. We keep them until they are eighteen, and then if they wish to learn a trade the Bishop gives them an opportunity. We have recently sent two boys from here to be taught trades. We have never had any trouble with the boys, nor have any ever run away. We keep up an evening school, which lasts from seven to nine. We commence our work here in April and break up in November. Three Sisters remain during the winter. We raise on the place a great many tomatoes for canning, also peas, beans and corn. Our vineyard contains about eight acres, and we expect to sell a great many grapes this year. We produced last year about eighty barrels of apples and fifty bushels of peaches. We had this year ten acres in tomatoes, five in sweet corn, ten in peas, four in beans, and four in potatoes."

The Sisters have acquired an enviable reputation for canning fruit, and this has led to a large demand for their productions in this line. The process of canning is a delicate one, requiring the exercise of great care. The tomatoes are first scalded in a large pan, and then peeled. This is done rapidly by the boys, who use short knives adapted to the purpose. The tomatoes are packed in cans containing about sixteen large tomatoes each, and then boiled for a short time in a large caldron. The cans are then taken out to cool, and afterward labeled. The canning is done in a large building, which contains a cylinder flue engine boiler, for generating the steam, vessels for scalding the fruit, large tables for peeling it, and other necessary apparatus. The boys, under the supervision of the Sisters, have become very expert at this business, and have been known to put up three hundred and thirty-five cans in two hours and twenty minutes. The price at which the cans are marketed at wholesale seems incredibly low.

Scrupulous order and system pervaded the establishment, not only in the fruit-canning department, but elsewhere. The orchard, vineyard and extensive gardens were well kept and clean, no weeds having been left to go to seed. The out-door work appeared to be all well done, and done in season. The boys were mostly at work in the garden, and were closely applying themselves to their labor.

This institution has not yet been incorporated, its originators preferring to wait until what was begun as an experiment should prove successful beyond fear of failure.

In its conception and early growth, it is a beautiful feature of the charities of the city of Rochester. The bringing of destitute boys out from the city, giving them a taste of out-door life, and teaching them to be industrious in a way that they seem to enjoy and under conditions quite nearly approaching to family life, in association with the pure and refined, who are devoting their lives to their welfare, it would seem, cannot but work most beneficial results, both morally and physically. It is not to be wondered at that the Sisters should testify that they have never had any trouble with the boys, and that none had ever run away.

As further illustrating the aims and objects of Excelsior Farm, the following statement from its founder, the Right Rev. Bernard J. McQuaid, will be found interesting:

"Experience taught me, some time ago, that there was a radical defect in our system of asylums for orphans. These children are necessarily treated with great tenderness in such institutions, and at a very early age are placed among strangers, who for the most part have no consideration for their loneliness and the peculiar way in which they were brought up, and they too often become disheartened and feel that the world is against them.

"Many of those who take children from the orphan asylums regard them as mere money-making machines, to be used while they pay, and to be cast off when they cease to pay. The fact that boys taken out of the asylum in the spring, by farmers, were returned to the asylum in the winter, after eight months of hard work, compelled us to look for a remedy.

"It is not advisable to keep children too long in an institution, treading the same track, year in and year out, nor is it good policy to keep boys in such places, under females, past twelve or thirteen years of age. Under such gentle treatment, with little physical work, boys become effeminate and disinclined to apply themselves steadily to manual labor. Furthermore, in this country it is almost impossible to place boys as apprentices to trades until they are seventeen or eighteen years of age. To tide them over the exceedingly trying years from thirteen to eighteen is the difficult problem we have to work at.

"With these considerations in view, and feeling that to guard orphan children in great kindness until thirteen years old, and then cast them off to go to perdition, for the most part, was not worthy of humane and Christian people, I began the experiment of Excelsior Farm. We intend hereafter to place on this farm only boys that have passed through the orphan asylum, and who are old enough to leave it. These boys will remain on the farm the entire year. We propose to make this their home until they are seventeen or eighteen, when we shall secure them the trade they choose. Besides these boys, many of the younger children spend from two to three months on the farm, engaged in work suitable to their age and strength. This change breaks up the monotony and routine of asylum life, develops self reliance, shows them that they can do something toward their own support, and is conducive to health and physical development. I have taken the farm on my own responsibility, have advanced all moneys needed to carry it on, without asking any aid from civic authorities or individuals, and I am confident that before long, Excelsior Farm will return the moneys loaned, pay for the farm, besides supporting the institution. We are careful to let the boys know they are paying their own way, and are not objects of charity.

"The farm was bought in the spring of 1873. All attention was given at first to raising of vegetables for the Rochester market, not knowing that Rochester is a poor market for vegetables, as almost every one has his own garden, and the rich country around the city so gluts the market that gardening on our scale would not pay. We consequently lost money but gained experience. Our attention was then called to the packing of fruits and vegetables. Having no capital to spare and risk, we began packing tomatoes as an experiment. This was successful and profitable. The present year we have packed peas,

beans, sweet corn and tomatoes. Our calculations are that the farm will pay expenses, the interest on the purchase of the place, and return at least \$1,000 of the money loaned. Next year it is proposed to double our work, and extend it to fruits and pickles. The only persons hired are the gardener and one man in the packing factory. I need not say that without the services of the Sisters of St. Joseph who watch over the boys and care for all their domestic needs, it would not be possible to do the work."

HOUSE FOR IDLE AND TRUANT CHILDREN.

Rochester.

This institution, located at No. 263 North St. Paul street, stands on a tract of land containing between six and seven acres, three of which are under garden cultivation. The building is a tasteful, two-story brick structure, with a mansard roof. The outlook from the rear is upon the high and precipitous banks of the Genesee. A little to the right stands a quadrangular frame building two stories in height, where the work of the House was begun.

The following sketch of the early history of the institution will throw some light upon its origin and aims:

"On one occasion two street loafers, in one of our public streets, got into a quarrel, when one of them, in the heat of passion, plunged a knife into the heart of his antagonist. The murderer and his victim were each about twelve years of age. This event led to the formation of a 'Juvenile Reform Society,' under whose auspices a school was opened for the reformation and care of this class of children. The same Society took the initiatory steps to have a law enacted to provide for such delinquents, which resulted in the passage of the truant act, passed April 12, 1853, and in the organization, the spring following, of the 'Home for Truants,' under the provisions of said act. The number of children at its first organization did not exceed twenty, but the exact number is not now known. It was, in the beginning, under the temporary supervision of a person appointed by the Common Council. The first Superintendent appointed by the Board of Managers was the late Samuel Chipman, who resigned his position in 1856, and was succeeded by the Rev. Timothy Fuller, who resigned in 1866."

The institution is managed by a Board of nine gentlemen, appointed by the Common Council of the city of Rochester — three being appointed each year. The working force consists of a superintendent, a matron, a teacher and four assistants. Its income is derived mainly from a municipal tax.

The House is arranged as follows: In the basement are a visiting room for the use of parents who come to see their children, family dining room, washing room, kitchen, and dining room for children. On the first floor are reception rooms, superintendent's apartments and sewing room. On the second floor are the family sleeping apartments, girls' dormitory, and bath room; also the hospital. The third floor is used for boys' dormitory. "The attic," the Superintendent, Mr. Elisha Bryant, says, "is used as a dormitory for boys upon their arrival. The best boys occupy the best rooms." He further states: "One-third of the children are sent here for truancy, vagrancy and very slight misdemeanors. Very few are orphans. Many of them have drunken parents. As soon as we can find suitable homes for the children, and can recommend them, we let them go. We claim under the law that while our children are supported by public charity, we have the control of them.

"Children sent here are generally committed by the Police Justice. At first it was expected that they could be committed by the Poor-master; but almost the entire number are now sent here by the Police Justice. We have about three committed by the Superintendent of the Poor, who pays for them \$1.00 per week.

"We take children from three to sixteen years of age, but I think this is not a proper place for any under five years old. The children are generally healthy. We had two deaths in March from scarlet fever."

In regard to the methods of placing children out, the Superintendent says: "Children are mostly indentured. Some are out, by permission of the Board of Managers, on trial. We have no committee for looking after children put out, except the discharging committee."

In regard to religious education he remarks: "We try to avoid sectarianism as much as possible. A Sunday-school is held on the premises at three o'clock every Sunday afternoon, in which we use the International Sunday-school paper. The inmates repeat the Lord's Prayer every night and morning."

The average age of the children at the date of visitation, September 8, was about nine years.

The Superintendent says: "My opinion is that the institution is better adapted to boys than girls. We want a certain number of girls to do sewing and kitchen work, but that is all."

The kitchen is well furnished, and has a good range. In the dining room are long tables covered with white cloths. There are stools for the children to sit upon. The dormitories are furnished with single wooden bedsteads of the French pattern. The beds have white counterpanes; sheets and pillow cases are changed once a week. The

window sashes are hung with cords, weights and pulleys. Transom lights are over the doors.

In the rear building on the first floor, were a number of boys engaged in making cane seats for chairs. "Some of the boys," the foreman in charge says, "are not seven years old. One of this age can cane seats as well as the older ones. I can teach a boy to do this kind of work in two days; there is a great difference in the boys; some learn more quickly than others. The average time taken to learn, however, is about four days. The boys are assigned their daily tasks, and can leave the shop when these are completed. They generally work three hours, and have five hours' schooling."

The school is held in the second story of this building. The room is a pleasant one, and furnished with modern improvements. The teacher, Mrs. M. H. Wilson, exhibited some of the pupils, who acquitted themselves very creditably in singing, drawing, reading, writing and general information. One of the boys, fourteen years old, drew a plan of the school-room on the blackboard, and answered very intelligently numerous close questions thereupon. The teacher says of him: "He came in March last, and was rather backward for one of his age." Another little boy, fifteen years old, drew a ship and appeared to be quite as familiar with every part as any sailor. The teacher remarks of him; "He has been here seven years, and did not know the alphabet when he came." A third boy drew rapidly a map of the State, showing the railways, canals and rivers intersecting it. The teacher, who seemed to have the confidence of the children, as well as some knowledge of their antecedents, says: "Most of the children have intemperate parents, and they very often speak to me of their troubles."

Two little boys, four and a half and six years old, and two little girls, eleven and nine years old, formed one family group. "They have a step-mother. Their father is intemperate, and is in the work-house." Two boys, one four and the other six years, and a little girl, eleven years old, formed another family group. "Their mother having been abused by her intemperate husband, deserted the family." Two boys, ten and thirteen years, formed yet another. "Their father tried to burn their mother to death. He was arrested and put in jail, and the children think he is now dead. The mother visited them once or twice, and the children are very home-sick." One of the lads in the school, who had lost the use of one eye, was said to be remarkably studious. The school was found to be in charge of an efficient and earnest lady teacher, and is worthy of special note. The children were well advanced in their studies, and the influences under which they are brought in the school-room is believed to be highly elevating.

It may be regarded as doubtful whether as strict a separation of the sexes is maintained in the institution as desirable. A particular in-

quiry into the methods of discipline left the impression upon the mind that it was not such as to reach the best results. Leaving out of consideration the educational department, it must be said regretfully that the visit was not on the whole satisfactory, and the grand object, the reformation of the inmates, was not as fully reached, under the system adopted, as it should be. This subject is deemed to be of sufficient importance to be worthy the careful consideration of the managers.

An institution having its avowed objects, it would seem, is much needed in the district in which it is located. The suggestion is ventured, whether the house might not be advantaged by calling to its aid a force of benevolent ladies, and permitting them to exercise some direction in its affairs.

No returns have been made showing the number of children received and discharged during the past year. The whole number received since its organization has been about nine hundred. There were in the Home at the date of October 1, 1875, fourteen orphan children, fifty-two half-orphans, and twenty-seven having both parents living. Fifty-seven were of native, and thirty-six of foreign parentage.

It is stated by the Treasurer, that "Our expenditures, from April 1 to December 1, 1875, were about \$6,000." The real estate and buildings are valued at \$45,000; personal property at \$1,877.50.

THE INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL OF ROCHESTER,

Rochester,

Was organized in December, 1856, through the zealous efforts of a few Christian ladies. Its objects are, "to gather into the School vagrant and destitute children who, from the poverty or vice of their parents, are unable to attend the public school, and who obtain a precarious livelihood by begging or pilfering; to give them ideas of moral and religious duty; to instruct them in the elements of learning, and in different branches of industry, and enable them to obtain an honest and honorable support, and to become useful members of society."

The great end this organization had in view was to prevent street begging by poor children, and to benefit their physical condition by furnishing them daily a warm, nutritious and abundant meal, and giving them shelter and instruction during the day; also to supply them with clothing when their own was insufficient. Those interested in the institution claim that the prevention of street begging has been largely accomplished, and that the improvement in the moral and physical condition of the children after a short attendance at the school

is marked; that the healthy, clean, well-ventilated rooms are in such marked contrast to the wretched, unsavory hovels whence most of the children come, that the very atmosphere invigorates.

The School is located at 76 Exchange street, in a central portion of the city. The building occupied stands upon a lot having about one hundred feet frontage. It is a spacious brick edifice, and well arranged for its purposes.

The financial interests of the institution are under the control of a board of gentlemen, and its general management is directed by a board of ladies chosen from the different Protestant churches of the city. Its immediate charge is in the hands of a Matron, who is assisted by two nurses and two female domestics. Two lady teachers in the school room are compensated by the Board of Education.

At the date of visitation there were thirty children making their home in the house, and about sixty attending the day school and receiving a mid-day meal. Eight of the regular inmates were girls. The children's ages range from eight months up to fifteen years. Four of them are under two years. From the Matron in charge, Miss Sarah Wheeler, the following information was obtained:

"Our children that live in the house are of the lowest and poorest class. All are half-orphans except three or four, who have fathers that have deserted their mothers. The mothers work in laundries, and in hotel kitchens. They put their children here and pay a dollar a week for their care. They are mostly German children. We could accommodate about fifty inmates. We have also a day school, with an average attendance of ninety-five; during the winter it is larger. We have a Visiting Committee who determine what children shall be admitted to the School. When children are brought or come here to the house, the Chairman of this Visiting Committee is notified, and the families are visited to see if the applicants are fit subjects for the School. If it is found that the parents are able to send them to the public school they are not admitted here.

"In addition to the visiting committee, there is a children's committee, to see to the children that are brought into the house to board. Some of these are partially boarded by the poormaster. Others stay and work for their board; others again are paid for by their friends, in which case the friends are at liberty to remove them at any time. We keep them, however, as long as we can, as we think that if they are here only a little while it will do them good.

"Some of the mothers bring their children here as early as six o'clock in the morning. If little ones, they are placed in the nursery and stay there till the parents return for them in the evening. While here they need constant supervision.

"The school is under the Department of Public Instruction. The

common branches of an English education are taught. Every Wednesday afternoon a committee of ladies attend and form a sewing school among the girls. The girls are entitled to whatever they make. The boys do all kinds of work; clean, sweep, dust, make fires, chop wood, and clean the cellars. The girls make the beds and assist in general housework."

The house is commodious. The basement is used for washing and store-rooms. On the first floor are the parlor, reception room, nursery and bath-room. The nursery is furnished with nine cribs, five of them being on rockers; also with twelve little baby chairs. The walls are hung with pictures, and the room is airy and well lighted.

Back of the parlor is the children's sitting room; a large, nicely furnished room, used also by the Matron. It contains a library of two or three hundred volumes, in a handsome case. In the rear of the main structure is the boys' bath-room and children's dining room.

Over the nursery is a large dormitory for girls, furnished with double bedsteads. The ladies' sewing room is also on this floor. It contains two sewing machines.

The school-room is large and will seat comfortably about one hundred children. It is furnished with the usual school apparatus, and contains a good organ.

The boys' dormitory is on the floor above that of the girls. It is a well-ventilated apartment, furnished with double bedsteads of iron.

A fair specimen of the homes from which most of the little children come, and of the evil influences from which the Industrial School seeks to save them, is thus described by one of the teachers who went to ascertain the cause of the absence from school of two of her scholars in whom she took a deep interest: "A man, the father, lay stretched upon the floor, drunk, and at the further end of the room sat the mother of the boys, a woman of delicate appearance, absolutely cowering with shame before the visitors. Poor thing! she had known better days, but step by step the family had gone down into that sad desolation through the vice that changes man into a demon. This mother had veiled her sorrow from human ken as long as possible; had borne up for her children's sake, till in despair, she stretched out her arms for aid, and sent her boys thither."

The manner in which this institution comes to the aid of little children, inspiring them with hope even under the most discouraging circumstances, is aptly illustrated by the career of two little Sisters who have been inmates at intervals during the past year. The mother is addicted to fits of intemperance. When in these moods, the children are in the habit of drifting to the school. They generally come looking pinched, dejected and sad, but soon, through the influence of the other children, they brighten up and become as happy as the rest. As

soon as the mother recovers she comes to the school and demands her children and takes them away till her next intemperate fit comes on when they are back again, with the usual dejected and sad look. The father, it appears, has deserted the family. By last accounts these little children were in school, dreading the approach of their mother to take them away. "They are bright as well as fair, quick and intelligent, and learn rapidly. It were a pity that aught so lovely should be blighted or spoiled."

The work of the ladies' sewing committee is thus stated in a late report of the society:

"Eighty-four new garments have been made for our children in the past year; six hundred and fifteen garments have been repaired, and six hundred and forty have been distributed. In addition to this, one hundred and fifty-two pairs of shoes and fifty-nine hats have been given out. Seventy-five bundles of clothing have been donated, together with a large box of clothing from the Baptist Church at Nunda. The expenses connected with our work department have been for the year, \$462.08."

On October 1st, 1875, there were in the institution one hundred and eight children, of whom two were orphans, forty-six were half-orphans, and sixty had both parents living. Seven were of native parentage, and one hundred and one were of foreign. They were all from Monroe county. Eighty-eight were partially supported by parents or friends, ten by counties, towns or cities, and ten by the institution.

The total expenditures of the institution during the year ending September 30, 1875, were \$3,941.32. It has an invested fund of \$10,000.

The health of the children on the day of visitation was good, but during the year several deaths had occurred among the young infants whom the maternal instincts of the ladies had induced them to take in and try to save from perishing, and although their success was not encouraging, yet they felt that this helpless class could not be discarded. An asylum, or some charity, for the special care of infants in the city of Rochester would seem, at the present time, to be greatly needed.

The earnest spirit which pervades this charity, and the noble work it is accomplishing, find a fitting expression in the modest statement of its devoted President, Mrs. George F. Danforth. She says: "We have struggled on with our institution with many inconveniences, by dint of strictest economy, doing the utmost with the means intrusted to our disposal. We feel that we have done the city good, and the State too, by turning many little boys and girls, who had never heard the voice of prayer, into God-fearing children."

ROCHESTER BENEVOLENT, SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL OF
THE SISTERS OF MERCY.*Rochester.*

This institution was incorporated May 21, 1857. It is situated at No. 5 South street. The building in use was formerly a private residence, to which another story has been added. In 1871, an adjoining house was purchased and connected with the first. The establishment is heated by a furnace, lighted with gas and supplied with city water.

The institution is under the charge of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Mercy. Mother Camillus, the Superior, is assisted by seven others of the Order in carrying on the work. In answer to inquiries made during the visitation, September 2, the following information was furnished by the Mother Superior, who has been twelve years in charge. She says: "We do not get any help from public authorities toward the support of these children. We have opened a select school in the house, and teach the children of the city, who pay from three to five dollars a quarter. Three dollars extra is charged for French and ten dollars for music. We have now twenty-eight girls in the industrial school. We commenced with three or four. Young girls who have no one to protect them are exposed to great danger. Our object is to keep them from the temptation to which they are exposed in the shops, to educate them and teach them trades, and when we send them out, we hope that they will be able to protect themselves and earn their own living.

"We take any children who are brought to us, either by the priest or by respectable people who desire to place them with us. Dying mothers sometimes ask us to take their destitute children. We could do more work if we had more means and a larger building. We are often obliged to refuse admission, and have now more inmates than we can conveniently accommodate. We receive children from twelve to eighteen years of age. Nineteen of our children are from the county of Monroe, thirteen from Cayuga, two from Ontario and one each from Seneca, Tompkins and Wayne counties.

"The children have a great respect for the Sisters, and are well behaved. They are not addicted to any special vices. We do not keep any that are refractory, nor do we take any girl with a bad name, lest she should corrupt the others. We never had but one child run away, and she wanted to come back, but was not permitted. We do not allow the children out unless they are accompanied by one of their parents or their guardian. Very few of the girls are entirely destitute

of friends. The children are very healthy. No death has ever occurred among the children in the house.

"We teach the girls the trades of shirt-making and tailoring. We do a great deal in the shirt-making business, and cut out nearly all the shirts we make. If the children stay with us two years they are able to help to support those who are learning. We allow them to live here till they are eighteen. When parents put a girl here to learn a trade we want them to agree to leave her with us three years. If they do not, we expect them to pay for her board. We think the character is well formed by being here that length of time. After leaving us they can readily find places where they may earn from five to eight dollars a week. One of our girls is now in Buffalo. We get very good reports regarding her. The people with whom she lives are greatly pleased with her. When she first came to us she could not read. If the girls are not able to support themselves we feel bound to take care of them. We help to get situations for them, keeping a kind of intelligence office in their interest. Ladies make applications to us, and the girls are thus provided with situations. We watch over them for a couple of years after they leave here, or until they leave town or get beyond our reach. If they do not call to see us we send for them. We hope to make this institution self-supporting. We have consecrated our lives to the work and do not expect to get any earthly reward."

At the date of October 1st, 1875, there were thirty-seven girls in the institution. Fourteen of these were orphans, sixteen were half-orphans, and seven had both parents living. Two had native and thirty-five foreign parents. Five were supported by their parents, and thirty-two wholly by the institution.

The number of children received during the past year was eighteen; the number discharged was six; of these four were returned to parents or guardians, and two otherwise discharged. The average number of inmates in the institution was twenty-eight. The total expenditure during the year was \$3,577; its total indebtedness is \$3,099.38, of which \$1,800 rests upon the real estate.

During our visitation we were shown some very fine *trousseaux* made in the house, which evidenced superior skill in needlework. The work room contained seventeen sewing machines, set very closely. The dining room and dormitories were small, in view of the numbers using them, resulting in some discomfort to the inmates. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, the establishment exhibited commendable housekeeping, and the inmates appeared to be under refining and elevating influences.

More room is greatly needed, not only to accomplish conveniently the work now being done by the Sisters, but also to enable them to enlarge their sphere of usefulness.

ROCHESTER HOME OF INDUSTRY.

Rochester.

The Home was organized in May, 1873, at the suggestion of Right Rev. Bishop McQuaid, and incorporated under the general law February 25, 1874. A two-story dwelling-house, 136 South St. Paul street, was purchased, and Sister Hieronymo, formerly of St. Mary's Hospital, who may be regarded as the founder of that noble charity, assumed its charge. She has three Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of St. Joseph assisting her in carrying on the work.

The objects of the Home are so well set forth by Sister Hieronymo, that we give them in her own words: "It is an institution designed to make a home for young girls that are homeless, working in shops and yet unable to pay their way in respectable boarding-houses. We charge \$2 a week, and besides keeping them from the dangers incident to low boarding-houses, we give them educational advantages and try to elevate them otherwise. This is also a home for our own girls that grow up with us in our asylums. We keep them till we know they are capable of taking care of themselves."

Trades, such as millinery and shoemaking, are taught in the house, besides such matters of housekeeping as every girl ought to be familiar with. The girls who board in the house have also the advantage of obtaining work there when their labor is not needed in the shops. This enables them always to have a home and to keep out of debt.

Tailoring and shoemaking are here carried on. All the different varieties of ladies and children's shoes are made. The girls make the uppers, and the soles are put on by men employed for that purpose. Coats, pants, vests and underwear are also made in the house, and all kinds of fine sewing are done. Ladies leave orders for infants' apparel and for *trousseaux*. In the shoemaking department of the house are four sewing machines, a splitting machine, a stock of lasts, and over \$500 worth of dies, and in the tailoring department are twelve sewing machines.

In connection with the Home is a shop (124 West Main street), for the sale of the manufactures of the inmates.

"To begin the work," the Sister says, "cost \$1,500.00, and yet it was commenced without a dollar of capital, only credit. I am trying to make the business of shoemaking form its own capital. The store now in use was generously furnished me for nine months free of rent.

"Children are taken into the Home from ten years old upward. They come from orphan asylums and from homes wanting father or mother, sometimes both. We do not take any child who is spoiled, nor any street walker." The average age of the girls is fifteen. The

Sister says, "I commenced with twenty-five, taking the oldest girls out of the Asylum. It has always been a rule in the Asylum that no girl be kept there beyond the age of thirteen years. They should be placed out at the age of twelve. The length of time spent at the Home depends, in each case, very much upon the character and disposition of the girl. The aim of the Sister being to form their character and cultivate in them that womanly dignity which will always be a safeguard to them in after-life, it is necessary to deal with each individually.

"Our discipline," says the Sister, "consists in depriving them of pleasure."

The following is the routine of the day as given by the Sister: "Sisters and children rise at five A. M. and prepare for breakfast. After morning prayers they take breakfast, and each one repairs to her special duties. Those who work in the shops are obliged to leave here at half-past six. They take dinner at twelve o'clock, and then work till six. Now, during vacation, we have two hours' school in the afternoon, from three to five. In the winter the school hours are from seven to nine. The hour for retiring is half-past nine."

"Industrial education," the Sister says, "is too apt to be neglected. It is one of the objections to asylums where they crowd children together without any occupation. They are not sufficiently advanced to be kept in school, without something to divert them, and the teachers are quite likely to crowd their minds with useless knowledge. I found that out before I was two years in St. Patrick's Asylum. I found it to be a pleasure to the children to study in the morning. In the afternoon, I gave them a little amusement."

On the day of visitation, the Sister related several incidents in her experience to show the dangers to which a certain class of girls are exposed from unprincipled men, and the need for her, in the strictest sense of the term, acting the part of a mother toward them. One of these incidents she related in substance as follows:

"A young and pretty girl, quite fond of dress, amiable and good, and yet inclined to frivolity, I allowed to accompany Mrs. ———, a lady of wealth and high respectability, on a trip to New York, to take charge of her little girl on the way. I explained to the lady the character of her charge, and cautioned her to be especially watchful over her interests. While *en route*, on the cars, a well-dressed man, apparently a gentleman, came along, and, unobserved by Mrs. ———, dropped a folded slip of paper into the girl's lap, on which was written, 'When you can get away from the old woman, come into the rear car.' The bait took, and an interview followed, resulting in a correspondence and an offer of marriage. This correspondence came to my knowledge after Mrs. ——— had returned, and the girl had been

replaced in the Home. I took pains to quietly inform myself of the standing of the girl's correspondent, and ascertained that he was already married and was an unprincipled character. Shortly after, this man came to Rochester, stopped at a hotel, and sent a message to the girl to meet him there. Becoming informed of this, I undeceived the simple, confiding girl, who was very loth to believe that any thing was wrong. She was thus saved, although plunged for the time into grief. She has since married a respectable farmer, and had her wedding breakfast in the house."

The Sister thought it was remarkable that the girls remained with her so willingly, as there was nothing to prevent them running away, and she was often obliged to deal with them very summarily in the matter of dress or with other weaknesses of character which she thought might injure them. The Sister never relinquishes her maternal care over the girls till they are married, and it is customary then for her to have their wedding breakfast given at the Home, thus carrying out still further the idea of motherhood. Several of the girls have married, and are now well settled in life.

The property is heavily incumbered, and the liabilities of the institution are an obstacle to its usefulness and a source of anxiety to the Sister in charge. Her language is: "I want means to carry on this work. I do not supply the need. I fall far short of it. Two weeks ago our house was so full that two young women who came here had to sit in chairs all night. They had no other place to sleep."

Notwithstanding these discouragements the Sister seems hopeful in her work, and referred to her experience in Buffalo, where she had to contend with as great difficulties as now. Speaking of it she said: "The house we entered was in a fearful condition. We had nothing in it, not even a bed. Our chairs were made by getting nail kegs and putting a board on the top. We got straw and put it into some old skirts, and thus made beds for three of us."

In regard to her present charge, she says: "Here there is much to do and nothing to do with, but the Almighty has placed me here, and if I give it up it would look as if I was depending more on the dollars and cents than on the promises of God."

The Home though small is well arranged, and bears evidence of being in the hands of one who knows how to make the most of every thing, and but for its lack of space would be what it is aimed to make it—a comfortable home and refuge for young girls.

The total expenditures of the Home during the past year were \$6,110.50. Its total indebtedness on the 1st of October, 1875, was \$12,120, of which \$7,000 was upon the real estate. In view of the beneficial results growing out of the work of the institution, it is hoped that the indebtedness, which is an obstacle in the way of its usefulness, may be speedily removed.

THE ROCHESTER ORPHAN ASYLUM,

Rochester,

Is situated in Hubbell Park, between Greig and Exchange streets. It was organized in February, 1837, and incorporated by special act of the Legislature March 23d, 1838.

The circumstances which led to its establishment are thus stated: "In the winter of 1836-7 it was ascertained by several charitable ladies that there were upwards of twenty orphans in the city who were dependent on private charity, and exposed to all the evils consequent to the loss of parental care. There were also many children of poor widows and others, who were under the most pernicious influences, their parents being extremely poor, and addicted to every kind of vice. In view of all these circumstances the ladies felt that something must be done immediately to rescue these orphans and destitute children from their life of want and sin, and by kind care and judicious training fit them for usefulness here and happiness hereafter. The subject was made general by calling a meeting, at which nearly all the religious societies were represented, and after a free discussion, an association for the relief of orphans and destitute children was formed. Many of the prominent citizens expressed their approval of the objects of the association, and promised their cordial coöperation. A suitable house was rented, a matron procured, and the Asylum was opened with nine children. Fifty-eight were received into the institution during the first year of its existence. In 1839 Mr. John Greig, of Canandaigua, gave to the Asylum the valuable tract of land on which the present buildings were erected in 1843 and 1844, and in April of the latter year the orphans were removed to the new home."

The Asylum is governed by a Board of Lady Managers.

The building was evidently planned with great care, and seems to be well adapted to its uses. The more recent addition is especially well constructed, the comfort and health of the inmates being the great objects aimed at. It is finished in natural wood, is light, airy, cheerful and in every way creditable to its projectors.

The dormitories of the asylum are large, neatly kept and well ventilated. Single bedsteads of iron are used and the bed linen is kept clean by frequent changes. The importance of sleep to the health and comfort of the children is apparently well appreciated by the kind ladies interested in the asylum, and the liberal provision made for their homeless charges is deserving of high commendation.

The nurseries, with all their tiny appurtenances, little cribs, little chairs, toys and happy little children, presented a very cheerful sight.

The infirmary is a fine, well-lighted apartment, furnished with iron

bedsteads and all the conveniences for the care of the sick. The room was cleanly kept, and was without an occupant. The health of the children on the day of visitation was good, but during the year scarlet fever had twice entered the house, carrying off several of its little inmates.

The school-room is furnished with patent desks and seats. The children receive a plain English education and remain in the school the hours regularly allotted by the Department of Public Instruction, under whose supervision the educational department of the asylum comes. The girls receive industrial training in general housework and are taught plain and fancy sewing, and the boys are, in various ways, disciplined into industrious habits. The moral and religious edification of the children is carefully considered, biblical instruction forming a prominent feature in the course of teaching. A Sabbath-school is held on the premises, and the children are permitted to attend the city churches, in company with responsible persons.

The dining room is furnished with stools instead of benches. White table-cloths and crockery ware are used at meals. A side table is also kept for the children who are not neat enough to use a table-cloth. The pantry adjoining was in excellent order.

In the lavatory each child has a towel, a basin, brush and comb, and also a tooth brush. The boys' bathing-room is supplied with four tubs, and the girls' with a similar number.

The asylum contains a fine library of six hundred and fifty-five volumes.

On the day of visitation, September 3d, the institution was found to be in the immediate charge of Mrs. L. Clements, Matron. Her subordinates are two nurses, two washer-women, one dining room girl, one girl to take care of the children, a chambermaid and a cook.

The ages of the children were stated to be "all the way from one year to fourteen. They are," the matron says, "brought here by mothers and fathers, and also by the poor-master. Others are children that have been abandoned by their parents. Others, again, are in part supported by their parents."

As examples of the way children have sometimes been treated by parties who were supposed to be trustworthy, the matron said: "We have had two children returned that were abused most shamefully. The custom is to put them out on trial for two or three months. Sometimes farmers take advantage of this, keep them during harvest, and then return them. One boy was taken in this way and sent back, and then taken again and sent back. He was made to work harder than his strength would bear, and it brought on a weakness from which I fear he never will recover. One of our girls was put out, and returned in fourteen months. She ran away from the place, but could

not find her way back to us. She got somehow to the Industrial School. One day while there she saw the man who had taken her from here, pass by, and was so frightened at his appearance that she jumped out of the window and ran to Court street, where she met a policeman, and asked him to protect her. Through him she got back here again." "She is," says the matron, "a girl difficult to take care of. She is one that you have to encourage and need to use well. You have to treat her kindly. If you want any work done she will not refuse to obey you, but if you speak kindly to her she will do it more cheerfully."

The number of children in the asylum October 1st was eighty-three. Of these fourteen were orphans, sixty-three were half-orphans, and six had both parents living. The parents of twenty were native; of sixty-three, foreign. Sixty-five were from Monroe county; five from Orleans; four from Wayne; three from Niagara, and one from each of the following counties: Cayuga, Erie, Jefferson, Livingston, Madison and New York.

The whole number of children received during the year was seventy-eight. The number discharged was seventy. Of the latter, six were placed out by adoption; three by indenture; forty-five were returned to parents or guardians; one left without permission; two were transferred to other institutions, and thirteen died. The total expenditures during the year were \$10,833.20. The total indebtedness on October 1st was \$4,700, of which \$3,500 was upon real estate. The invested funds amount to \$7,000.

The following additional information as to what is regarded by the managers as being the best methods for furthering the aims of the institution is furnished by one of the ladies of the Society, long an earnest worker in the field. Mrs. W. N. Sage says:

"The policy of this institution has always been to procure for the children, under our care, situations in private families, where they will be apprenticed, or otherwise adopted, and thus brought under the salutary influence of home discipline. We consider this the best method for securing the happiness and usefulness of our children, which are the results aimed at by our charity."

In regard to the manner of placing children out, and the success attending this work, she says:

"The Children's Committee consists of three members of the Board of Managers, whose duty it is to ascertain, as far as possible, the character and condition of persons applying for children. This committee is authorized to place children, given up to the Board, in suitable families, where they will be under good moral and religious influence, and otherwise properly cared for, and they shall cause appropriate indentures to be executed, as early as practicable after the specified

time of trial has expired. They shall record in a book, provided for that purpose, and kept at the Asylum, the name and age of each child indentured, the name and residence of the person to whom the child is indentured, whether bound to service or by adoption, the date when such indenture was executed, the date when it will expire, and the name of the member of the committee who bound the child. No child shall be indentured under twelve years of age, unless taken by adoption. Every child, when indentured, shall receive a Bible, in which shall be recorded the name and age of said child, with the date of leaving the Asylum. This committee is required to make a monthly report of the children received and dismissed by them during the month, stating the full name and age of each child, its parentage, place of birth, residence, or any other items of interest in their possession, which may be of use in tracing the history of the child, or identifying it in future years. They are also required to write at least once every year to each person taking a child from the Asylum, thus keeping the Board informed of its condition and prospects.

"The average number of children placed in families for the last ten years has been seventy-six. During the last three years twenty-one children, between the ages of eight weeks and seven years, have been adopted into good families. Nine children, between the ages of ten and fourteen years, have, during the same period, been placed in families, where they will receive a good common school education and be trained in habits of industry, thus fitting them to become good and respectable citizens."

In regard to the general results that have been accomplished by the Asylum, since its beginning, Mrs. Sage further says:

"Since the organization of this Asylum over two thousand children have shared its fostering care. From statistics, and facts which have been gathered in various ways, no doubt is left on the minds of the managers that great good has resulted to the children — that a large majority have been rescued from a life of poverty, beggary, vice and crime, and placed in situations where happier and more elevating influences surrounded them, and encouraged them to cultivate those habits of honesty and industry which would make them a blessing, instead of a curse to society.

"We know of many persons, now occupying prominent positions in society, who passed their childhood in our Orphan Asylum, and who went from our fostering care into good homes, where they received all the advantages of education and culture which could have been bestowed on our own children. Not long since a fine looking and very intelligent lady called at the Asylum with her husband, and asked the privilege of going over the house, saying to the matron, 'I have brought my husband to see where I was so kindly cared for in my

helpless childhood.' She now occupies a position of influence in a western city. Another lady is the wife of a successful merchant in our own city. Our protégés are scattered all over the land — lawyers, physicians, merchants, farmers, and happy wives and mothers — the great proportion of whom would have been paupers and outcasts, but for the sheltering care given to their early years by our Asylum. Our policy of finding good homes for our children, as soon as practicable, instead of keeping them within our walls, for so long a period as to give them an institution stamp, has been fully vindicated by its results. I do not mean to be understood that all the children placed in homes by us grow up useful and respectable; hereditary traits will sometimes manifest themselves greatly to our disappointment and sorrow, but the percentage of those who attain to honest and respectable manhood and womanhood is as great as that of an equal number taken from average society."

A review of the work done by this Asylum, during the thirty-eight years of its existence, shows results which could not have been attained without careful management and self-sacrificing Christian effort. The organization has done much to relieve Monroe county from the large accessions to its pauper classes, which would have been made by the poor children of misfortune, that this institution has rescued. It came to their aid at the right time, and before the brand of pauper could be affixed, placed them under healthy family influence and thus absorbed them into the productive portion of society. Now that the almshouse system of rearing and training children has been, by a wise and beneficent law, set aside, the field of usefulness in which its efforts can be utilized will be no less urgent, and it is gratifying to find this worthy charity in the hands of those having large experience and whose benevolence has been well proven.

ST. JOSEPH'S GERMAN ROMAN CATHOLIC ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Rochester.

The objects of this institution are "the moral and scientific education of orphan, half-orphan and destitute children."

Those familiar with its early history, furnish the following information regarding it:

"In 1862, there were three German Roman Catholic congregations in the city of Rochester, numbering nine thousand souls, the largest of them, St. Joseph's, embracing about six thousand. Up to that time, orphans had readily found homes in families by adoption. But by and by the number of orphans increased, so that homes for all could

not be provided at the time of the death of their parents. At this period (1862), a number of the leading members of St. Joseph's congregation organized the Orphan Asylum Society, and on April 23, 1863, it was incorporated by a special act of the Legislature. At first, the Sisters De Notre Dame, under the Superiorship of Sister M. Angelica, took into an old, small and inconvenient frame house one orphan girl. By and by, they took as many as five; for more there was no room; two of these were of Irish parentage. In 1864, two tracts of land were purchased in Irondequoit, outside the city limits (now within), one of fifty-five acres and the other of about thirty-three acres. The latter was laid out in village lots, and sold as opportunity offered for the benefit of the Asylum. From the proceeds of fairs, picnics, concerts, etc., and the sale of the lots, the Asylum work was commenced.

"For a number of years it was able to care for but quite a limited number of children. In 1866, a brick edifice on Andrew street was erected. This, subsequently, proving to be insufficient to accommodate increasing needs, a new and larger edifice, eighty-six by forty-five feet, was constructed on Andrew street, in the year 1874, and was occupied in January, 1875. It cost \$25,000, and is capable of accommodating one hundred inmates." This edifice is a three-story brick building, with a basement and an attic. It is a plain, substantial structure of quadrangular shape, with mansard roof. In the basement of the building are the kitchen, pantries and store-rooms. Wide center-halls extend longitudinally through the building, on each floor, at each end of which are stairs leading to the top of the building. On the first floor are a parlor, two school rooms and a music room; on the second floor, the chapel and sitting room for the Sisters, etc.; and on the third floor, the children's dormitories. The building is well constructed and has modern conveniences. The windows are large and the sashes suspended by cords, weights and pulleys. It is heated by steam and lighted with kerosene.

The Asylum is under the charge of six Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order De Notre Dame, Sister Mary Gabriel being Superior. At the date of visitation, September 1st, there were thirty-five orphan, and twelve half-orphan children in the institution, and also five whose parents were living, making in all fifty-two. Of this number eighteen were boys. The children were mostly of German parentage.

Some of the children entertained us by singing, accompanied by a piano played by Sister Godbertha, who is remarkably proficient in music. This lady, we were informed, plays on the harp, violin, zither, guitar, flageolet and piano with equal facility. She also sings well, and is a most useful auxiliary to the Asylum in teaching the children music.

The children were mostly from the city. They are brought in sometimes when only a few months old. In the nursery were eleven little children that had been reared on the bottle, and one little baby who had been taken from the poor-house, all looking clean and nicely dressed.

There are three schools held in the house: A high school for outside pupils, and two schools of a primary character for the orphans. The pupils of the latter are transferred to the high school as soon as they are sufficiently advanced. The high school is carried on in an elegantly furnished school-room, and abundantly supplied with blackboards, globes, maps, charts, etc.

The house contains a very beautiful chapel, with sitting room for about sixty persons.

The nursery is furnished with comfortable little cots, and all necessary appurtenances of such an apartment.

The dormitories for the children are furnished with single iron bedsteads and straw beds. The bed linen is changed once a week.

The children are kept clean, and bathe weekly. All their clothing is made in the house.

The Sister in charge says of the girls: "They remain until eighteen, if they want to, but if they prefer to go sooner they are at liberty to do so." In regard to discipline, she says: "Once in a while we put them in a corner. We aim to get their hearts, and then it is easy enough to manage them." "Boys twenty years old," the Sister says, "bring their money to me regularly to keep for them."

In the rear of the building is a fine yard, with a swing for the children. Across the yard are two large brick edifices, one of which is the parish school for boys, taught by the Brothers of Mary, and the other is the parish school for girls, taught by the Sisters De Notre Dame, who make the asylum their home. This latter school has a daily attendance of about three hundred and fifteen girls.

The number of children received into the Asylum during the year ending October 1st, 1875, was thirty-three. The total number discharged was nine. Of these one was placed out by adoption, four were returned to parents or guardians, and ten, babies, had died. The total expenditures during the year were \$23,999.63. Of this sum about \$18,500 was expended for buildings and improvements. The value of the personal estate and investments of the Asylum amount to \$11,198.60. Its real estate, Asylum buildings, fixtures and furniture are valued at about \$87,000. Its total indebtedness is \$18,196.64.

The whole number of children that have shared the benefits of the institution since its organization is one hundred and twenty-nine.

The family feeling is quite predominant in this Asylum. There is evidence of good cheer in the appearance of the little ones, and a hearti-

ness and cheerfulness of manner on the part of the older inmates characteristic of the German people, which cannot but have a most happy influence upon the homeless children brought under its beneficent care.

ST. MARY'S BOYS' ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Rochester.

This Asylum was removed from South street to its present location in 1866, and its work conducted in a frame building till 1869 or 1870, when the present commodious structure was completed. It is situated in the western part of the city, on the corner of Genesee and West Main streets, on a tract of ground containing five acres. The house is composed of a main and a wing, and the plan contemplates the erection of another wing. It is a stone, stuccoed edifice, two stories high, with also a basement and a mansard story. It is well ventilated, supplied with water from the city, carried throughout the building in pipes, lighted by gas and heated by furnace. Broad halls extend the whole length of the building on each floor. The school rooms are large and pleasant. The chapel will accommodate two hundred persons. The dormitories are large and airy, and the whole building is well constructed, and apparently well adapted to its uses.

The house can provide for one hundred and eighty inmates. When the projected wing is completed, its capacity will be increased to two hundred and forty. At the date of visitation, September 1st, there were one hundred and thirty boys in the asylum.

The institution is under the charge of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister Stanislaus being the Lady Superior. She has ten Sisters associated with her in the work.

The dormitory walls in this asylum are tinted a soft color. The ceilings are about thirteen feet high. The bedsteads in use are single, of the French pattern, wood color, and varnished, giving the room a cheerful appearance. Straw beds, of good thickness, are in use, and are preferred to mattresses. The Sister in charge says: "The straw can be changed, and the ticks washed as often as necessary." The sleeping apartments of the Sisters communicate with the dormitories. In this way easy access to the children in case of necessity is secured. The Sister says: "Should any child become sick during the night, a Sister is with him immediately."

The wash-room is conveniently arranged, each boy having his own towel, wash-dish, comb and brush. The latter two are kept in a tin box. The Sister spoke emphatically of the importance of giving each

child a towel, as a means of preventing the spread of ophthalmia. She says: "It is very easy to let this disease infect them all. Not a child in the house is affected with sore scalp or any skin disease."

Three sewing machines are used in the asylum by the Sisters, in making garments for the children.

The laundry is in the old wooden asylum building, adjoining the new edifice.

The garden is inclosed with a high fence. It contained two acres of potatoes, and about half an acre of onions. A good deal of the work of garden cultivation is done by the boys. There is a small apple orchard upon the place. The supply of apples is not large, as the Sister declares that "they are eaten in the blossom."

The children were found in the orchard playing. They sang several lively rhymes, under the leadership of a little blind boy who was one of the youngest and apparently the happiest among them. They seemed a bright and merry little company, and all appeared to be healthy. There had been no case of sickness or death in the institution during the year. It was stated that the only deaths that had ever occurred in the asylum were among those children who were consumptive when received. The Sister says: "Taking good care of the children makes less trouble in the end."

The St. Mary's Boys' Orphan Asylum was incorporated December 24, 1864, under the general law, soon after its organization. It grew out of the following conditions:

"The number of orphan and destitute boys that wandered in the streets of the city, without any one to control or direct them, and the frequent committal of this class to houses of correction, where they were obliged to remain sometimes for years, caused a few citizens to associate themselves into a corporation, having for its object the care of this class of children. The Right Rev. Bishop Timon, the Very Rev. J. Early, and Sister Stanislaus were the prominent projectors. A small house on South street was opened on the 1st of November, 1864, by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister Stanislaus being in charge. The number of orphans received the first week was fifteen, and the number steadily increased."

The average number of inmates during the past year was one hundred and forty-one. Six hundred and seventy-four boys have shared the benefits of this institution since its beginning. They are received from three to sixteen years of age. Their average age on the day of visitation was about eleven years. There were one hundred and seventeen in the asylum October 1st, 1875. Of these eighteen were orphans, ninety-four half-orphans, and five had both parents living. Forty-two had native parents, and seventy foreign parents. Seven of them were partially supported by parents or friends, fifty-five wholly by the insti-

tution, and fifty-five in part by the city or county. The municipality of Rochester pays one dollar a week for each child committed from the city, which sum, it is said, is far from covering the expenses of their support. Father Early is of the opinion, however, that it is better that the community contribute toward these charities than that the children should be entirely maintained by the city. He says: "The worst idea that you can indoctrinate into a people is that they should not contribute to the Church or to charity." Eighty-three of the boys were from Monroe county; seven from Cayuga; eight from Livingston; six from Cortland; three from Onondaga; three from Seneca, and one each from Genesee, Oneida, Tompkins, Wayne and New York counties. The number of boys received during the year was twenty-eight. Nineteen were returned to parents or guardians, one was transferred to another institution, and four were discharged otherwise.

The total expenditures of the asylum during the year ending September 30, 1875, were \$6,442.96. Of this \$1,075 was for building and improvements. The total indebtedness of the institution is \$16,000, of which \$10,000 is upon the real estate.

The results of the inspection of the institution were very satisfactory. It is believed that, aside from the elevating moral influence which the asylum brings to bear upon the young, its work lessens very considerably the public burdens attached to the support of the dependent and criminal classes.

ST. PATRICK'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Rochester.

This Asylum is located on the corner of Frank and Vought streets, in the northerly part of the city. Its objects are "to provide education, maintenance and trades for female orphan children, and to secure for them homes in respectable families."

The origin of the institution is stated by those familiar with its history to be as follows: "The Asylum was established in the year 1842, by the Rev. Bernard O'Reilly, then Pastor of St. Patrick's Church, at a time when there were few such institutions in the western part of the State. This gentleman, alive to the needs of his parish, concluded that in no way could he be of greater benefit to the people among whom he labored than by establishing an institution which would afford a home for destitute orphan girls, where they could be religiously instructed, afforded a good plain education and taught useful trades, by which at maturity they could support and protect themselves.

"The immediate charge of the institution was assumed by the benevolent Sisters of Charity, under the Superiorship of Sister Beatrice, April 9th, 1845. It has been supported by the charity of the compassionate, aided by the liberality of the State, and has passed through many seasons of great financial difficulty."

The Asylum was incorporated by act of the Legislature April 14th, 1845. A portion of the edifice now in use was erected in 1842, and an addition was made to it in 1864. It is a plain brick structure, three stories high above the basement, erected upon a lot seventy feet in front by one hundred and sixty feet in depth. The basement contains both the children's and the Sisters' dining rooms, pantry, store rooms, children's bath room, wash room and coal cellar.

On the first floor are two parlors, two reception rooms for the use of children's friends when visiting them, the school room, the children's infirmary, Sisters' bathing and clothes rooms. On the second floor are the chapel, the Sisters' sitting room, a school room, a play room, and the children's clothes room. The third floor contains the children's dormitories, also the sleeping apartments of the Sisters.

The building is heated by furnace, lighted with gas, supplied with water from the city works, and will suitably accommodate one hundred and fifty inmates. At the date of visitation, September 1st, there were about fifty children in the Asylum, their average age being nine years. They are taken as young as three years old, and kept till they are about fourteen. The Sister in charge says: "The condition of the children on coming to the Asylum shows more mental than physical poverty. The inclinations of many seem to be to evil, and unless restrained by some controlling power they become quite abandoned.

"There is no fixed period for children to remain at the Asylum. Some stay only a week, others a few months, and others again six, seven, or even eight years. No children are given out unless upon the application of one of our priests. The responsibility then devolves upon him to see that the child is protected. If the influences around her are not such as they ought to be, the Asylum is open for her return. Our success in putting out children has been very great. Some, of course, have fallen away, as will always happen, but the majority have done well. Of late years, we have been more careful to whom we give our children. The persons that formerly applied for children were of a class that had no good homes of their own. This class is now diminishing. There is not such a demand for children as heretofore. When the proper time comes for their disposition, those of the children who wish to learn trades are sent to the Industrial School, under the charge of Sister Hieronymo, the others go out to work. They stay in this institution long enough to get through the common branches of education, but not long enough to learn trades.

They do all the housework, make, mend and wash their own clothes. It requires a careful supervision to render the children orderly, as fully five-eighths are of parents who have neglected their duty to their families. We never use corporal punishment, but discipline by giving additional work and by separating offenders from their playmates. At other times it serves as a punishment, if they are made to work alone. We never deprive them of their food. Singing forms a part of the system of instruction."

A select school was formerly conducted on the premises, but at present the labors of the Sisters are devoted exclusively to the care of the orphan and destitute who come under their charge.

In the infirmary we found one little girl, suffering from heart disease. She had just recovered from an attack of spotted fever. Three deaths had occurred in the Asylum during the year.

The bath-room is furnished with three bathing tubs. Each child has a separate wash bowl, made of tin, and resting in a long wooden sink; also a separate towel and a bag for her combs. The children, it was stated, as a rule, bathe once a week and often twice. The dormitories were furnished with single, wooden bedsteads; the mattresses were of straw, and the counterpanes of snowy whiteness. The Sisters think there is no more trouble in keeping wooden bedsteads clean than iron ones. They say that they find the use of a little insect powder very effectual in keeping away vermin. Two Sisters sleep in each dormitory, one at each end of the room.

The girls do not dress uniformly, except on holidays.

The laundry and bakery are separate from the main building.

The play ground is spacious and paved with brick.

At the date of October 1, there were eighty girls in the institution. Twelve were orphans, fifty half-orphans, and eighteen had both parents living; five were of native parents and seventy-five of foreign. They were from the following counties: Forty-nine from Monroe, thirteen from Livingston, eight from Cayuga, three from Ontario, and three from Seneca. Twelve of the children were supported partially by parents or friends, forty-three by the city and by counties, and twenty-five wholly by the institution. Twenty-five children were received during the past year, thirty-five returned to parents or guardians, and two were otherwise discharged.

Nine hundred and ninety-six children have been received in this institution, and shared its benefits since its organization. So great a work of Christian benevolence speaks its own praise for the reverend founder of the Asylum, and the Sisters in charge, who have borne the burden of the labor.

The entire expenditures of the Asylum during the year ending September 30, 1875, were \$4,074.37. Its total indebtedness is \$3,000.

WESTERN HOUSE OF REFUGE.

Rochester.

This large institution, established by the authority of the State, for the reformation of Juvenile delinquents, and opened in the month of August, 1848, is so well known through the comprehensive annual reports of its officials, that little, perhaps, can be added to the general stock of information regarding it. The work it is carrying on, however, is of so important a character, that a few notes taken during two of several lengthy visits, may not be out of place.

The Western House of Refuge is situated in the northern part of the city of Rochester. At the time of its establishment, it was without the city limits. The subsequent growth of the city, however, has brought it within the corporation, and it is now being fast surrounded with suburban improvements. The building stands within a walled inclosure, having a street frontage of five hundred feet, and a depth of six hundred and fifty. It is about one hundred feet from the front wall, and shade and ornamental trees embellish the intervening space. Twelve acres in the rear of the walled inclosure are surrounded by a stockade, and devoted to garden purposes.

Boys are received between the ages of seven and sixteen, the average age being about fourteen years. They are detained till the age of twenty-one, unless their good behavior entitles them to an earlier discharge. The greater proportion are committed for petty larceny, but some for graver offenses. By authority of the Legislature, boys from Monroe county may be committed to the Refuge for vagrancy.

The institution is controlled by a Board of Managers, appointed by the Governor, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, and its current expenses, aside from its earnings, are met by annual appropriations from the State treasury. The title to the property is vested in the State. The institution is under the immediate charge of Mr. Levi S. Fulton, Superintendent.

On the dates of visitation, September 2d and 3d, the Refuge was not filled to its capacity. It then contained about four hundred and twenty-five inmates, but one hundred and twenty-five more could have been accommodated. From the Superintendent, the following information was obtained: Each boy, on entering the institution, is numbered and registered in a book, provided for that purpose. There are also entered in this book his age, weight, height, color of his eyes and hair, complexion, education, occupation, residence, previous arrests, if any, whether ever before in any refuge, reformatory or poor-house; whether he has step-father or step-mother, and, if so, their habits; the religion and occupation of family; if any one of them was ever arrested, or ever in prison or almshouse; the name and

business of the father or mother, or whomsoever he would like to have the Superintendent communicate with in case of sickness. One page of the book is devoted to the record of the subsequent facts ascertained regarding the boy. If he is committed a second time, further entries are made on the same page. A record of the standing of each one is kept, from which the status of any boy is made out for his friends or relatives. The Superintendent says: "We keep no record of the boy's career after he leaves, unless it is of a very interesting character, when we put it in our record." The record having been completed, the boy is then sent to the lavatory with a printed ticket, stating his name and house division, and the shop to which he is assigned. A circular is then sent to the parents or friends of the boy, notifying them of his commitment to the institution; also of the character of the Refuge, its objects; the treatment and discipline adopted for the boys; the rules of the house with regard to visiting days, and especially with regard to the kind of reading matter which the friends of the boys are allowed to send them.

A systematic plan is adopted in the House for the daily routine of even the minutest matters. The Superintendent says: "I always send an order written on a blank form for every thing. If a party comes here, and wants to see a boy, I fill out a blank ticket or order directing the boy to be sent to the waiting room. In the same way, when I want a boy dressed to go home, I also fill a blank order and send it to the shop for him. We give them a citizen's suit of clothes when they go out. We do not give them a trunk. When a boy has attained the standing that entitles him to go home, we send a circular to his friends or parents, notifying them of the fact, and also intimating that by forwarding money to pay his fare and furnishing satisfactory evidence of the home being of such a character that the boy will have constant employment, he will be sent on without delay. We have a blank form that is sent with this letter, to be signed by the county judge, or the police magistrate, which is designed to be a guarantee that the home to which the boy is sent is a suitable one. It certifies that the head of the house sustains a good moral character, is of temperate and industrious habits, and has a good home. We use two sorts of blank forms; one if the boy has parents, the other if he has only friends. If a parent comes and wants to get his son, we fill out a form and send it with him to the discharging committee. The form shows that the boy has attained the requisite standing to entitle him to dismissal. He is then discharged, if the committee see fit.

"We do not bind out boys, because they have an aversion to being bound. If we find places for them, we intrust them to the care of suitable persons during good behavior. Very often boys are not satisfied, and come back. We do not require the parties who take boys

to report, but I think there should be some system of that kind. We hear from them very frequently."

The Superintendent, on being asked how the boys turned out, as a general rule, replied: "Some of our boys have turned out finely. Prejudice makes men say, 'A boy comes out of the Refuge worse than he goes in.' But here is a boy who leaves the House of Refuge, and turns out splendidly, makes a good citizen, and is as good a workman as can be found. You hear nothing said about him. Ten such do not make any noise, but the eleventh gets into some scrape and is arrested. He is examined and punished, and a great outcry is made against the House of Refuge. Take the boys we have here now, a large majority of them have been sadly neglected. They never had proper training at home, nor any proper home influences surrounding them. Many boys come here fourteen and fifteen years old, who do not even know their letters. It is not to be expected that we can take these boys and turn them all out unexceptionably good. Because some of them go out and lapse into crime, is it just to say that the House of Refuge is doing no good?"

On being asked his views as to the proper method of treating such cases of boys as are found to be incorrigible, he said: "My own idea is this. I would make this a military school. There is a certain class of boys that will grow up criminals and fill our State prisons. Some are born perverse; it is bred in the bone. They cannot help stealing, and steal they will unless held in check. This class I would drill into military habits. When I found boys of this class, I would take special pains to have them acquire a taste for military life. When this taste is acquired it is very natural for them to enlist. By the adoption of such a course they would not only be saved from crime, but be enabled to render good service to their country." In regard to discipline, the Superintendent says: "I find a system of rewards and punishments works admirably.

"No boy is discharged unless his standing in the house entitles him to go. No influence of any kind can avail. I do not think there is an institution in the world where the managers stand up against political influence like this. The boys know that they are placed here on their good behavior.

"Each boy has a badge of a certain grade. When a boy deserves punishment we change his badge. A boy would rather be flogged than have his badge changed. Sometimes if a boy does any thing mean on the play ground, if he uses obscene language, we let him stay in the shop and deprive him of play for a certain length of time. When this punishment does not suffice, we have a dormitory where a boy can see to read, but cannot look out. We shut him up here for a short time, and have his food brought to him. In extraordinary cases we use the rod. There are

cases where you cannot reach a boy except through the skin. When this is necessary it is done privately, so that no other boy knows any thing about it. Should a boy come to me and say I have been 'straight' for so long, and ask to be allowed the time he has lost, I tell him if he does not retrograde during sixteen weeks I will promise to restore the week he has lost. Another then comes in and wants the same favor. They nearly always come back at the end of the sixteen weeks."

The badge system will be better understood by giving the following rules provided by the Discharging Committee:

"A record shall be kept of the conduct of every inmate of the House, in a book designated as the 'Badge Book,' in which No. 1 indicates correct deportment for the week. Any violation of the rules of the House shall be indicated by Nos. 2, 3 and 4, according to the magnitude of the offense. A book shall also be kept in which record shall be made, stating what the offense was for which a change from No. 1 was made.

"Any inmate of the House continuing in Grade No. 1 for sixteen weeks in succession shall be advanced to the First Class of Honor, and wear a badge indicating his standing. This badge, for the First Division, is a copper shield, with the words 'Western House of Refuge,' 'Onward,' across its face; for the Second Division it is a brass shield, with the words 'Western House of Refuge,' 'Onward,' on its face.

"Any member of the First Class of Honor, continuing in Grade No. 1 a second period of sixteen weeks in succession, shall be advanced to the Second Class of Honor, and wear a badge indicating his standing. This badge, for the First Division, is a brass shield, with words 'Western House of Refuge,' 'Upward,' across its face; for the Second Division, it is a German silver shield, with a copper coat of arms of the State of New York in the center of its face, surrounded by the words 'Western House of Refuge,' 'Upward.'

"Any member of the Second Class of Honor continuing in grade No. 1 a third period of sixteen weeks in succession, shall be advanced to the Third Class of Honor, and wear a badge indicating his standing. This badge for the First Division is a German silver shield, with the words 'Western House of Refuge, Excelsior,' across its face; for the Second Division, it is a German silver shield, with a silver coat of arms of the State of New York in the center of its face, surrounded by the words 'Western House of Refuge,' 'Excelsior.'

"This is the highest or graduating class, and until attained, no application for discharge of the inmate will be entertained by the Discharging Committee.

"Any member of the Third Class of Honor continuing in grade No. 1 a fourth period of sixteen weeks in succession, shall be advanced to the Fourth Class of Honor, and wear a badge indicating his standing, and shall be entitled to his discharge from the House when a proper home is provided for him, subject to the approval of the Discharging Committee. This badge is of orlonide, round, a figure four in the center of its face, surrounded by the words 'Western House of Refuge, Class Four,' and entitles the wearer to go to the tailor's shop to be measured for a suit of clothes, to be made and in readiness for him to wear out when such home is provided.

"Any member of the Third Class of Honor, entitled to his discharge, must remain No. 1 until a suitable home is provided for him and he be discharged. If for any violation of the rules of the house, his grade is changed from No. 1, he must

regain his standing by remaining No. 1 another period of sixteen weeks in succession, before he can be discharged.

"Every offense committed by any member of either of the "Classes of Honor," whereby his grade will be changed from No. 1, must be reported in full, in writing, to the Superintendent, who will investigate the charges, and either forgive the offense or direct a change of grade from No. 1, as he may deem for the greatest good of the inmate and for the best interests of the institution.

"For gross or continued misconduct on the part of any member of either "Class of Honor," his badge may be taken from him at the discretion of the Superintendent."

"Once in a while," the Superintendent says, "we have a boy who loses self respect. I have now a boy seventeen years old who can never get higher than his third badge. He is always falling back."

The partition wall dividing the large yard was originally intended to enable a classification of the boys to be made, according to their moral character. This classification is not maintained under the present system, but one separating the older from the younger boys is substituted.

The outer walls are of stone, eighteen feet high in front and twenty-two in the rear. They are four feet six inches thick at the bottom, and twenty inches at the top, perpendicular on the inside and buttressed on the outward face. Notwithstanding this apparently impossible barrier, the Superintendent informed us that on a recent occasion a very homesick little fellow, finding that neither tears nor entreaties could undo the inexorable bolts about him, had actually scaled the wall, "running up its side like a squirrel."

The Superintendent, on being asked if he thought any changes could be made in the present system, for the better, said: "I think it would be well to have rooms nicely furnished for boys who had proved themselves worthy. I could then hold them out as an inducement to the others to try and earn them by good behavior. Those not thus favored would see the difference made, and I could say to them 'you know why we give these boys those rooms, and when your merits are such as to deserve them, you shall have them too.' I would also make a distinction in their tables. I would have the best boys sit at a table by themselves, like a family, with two of their number to carve. I could, in the same manner as above, explain to the other boys why I made the distinction, thus giving them an additional incentive to work up. I would further allow the best boys to go up town occasionally to church, to attend a meeting or a lecture."

Routine of day's duties.—"The bell rings at five o'clock in the morning, when the boys rise and make their beds. At five-fifteen they go to the bath-room; at five-thirty to the school-room; at seven they march to the breakfast table; and at eight o'clock to the workshop, where they remain till half-past ten, when they have a recess.

They then work till twelve ; after which they march to dinner. At one o'clock they march back to the work-shops, and work till three o'clock. They then take a recess for ten minutes, or, if their tasks are done, they are at liberty the rest of the afternoon. Those having unfinished tasks must work till half-past four, when supper is ready. Supper over, all may play until six, when they march to school. After school and closing exercises they have prayers in the school-room, and are then paraded and marched to bed. In winter the boys do not rise as early as in summer."

Industries.—About one hundred and twenty boys are employed in the shoe-making department, the same number in the cane-making, and about twenty-five in the tailoring department. The Superintendent says: "We have a room for making and mending stockings, sheets, pillow cases and towels. Every boy we have is capable of doing something, and all are tasked according to their ability."

Near the door within the entrance to the chair factory is a little fountain, which, with its cooling spray, refreshes one upon entering from the walled yard on a hot summer's day. Small boys were here at work. Each seat is secured in a clamp adjusted to an upright standard, at the proper height for a boy. About sixteen boys do flagging. The rest cane seats.

The work done in the tailoring department is all for the house. The boys dress alike, and wear a dark grey uniform.

In the shoe shop the Superintendent regulates the tasks. "Very little talking is allowed during work, but when the boys get through they can go into the yard and make as much noise as they please." They work "in teams." The cutting and lasting are done in one room, the finishing off in another.

At the time of the visitation made by the President of this Board, together with Commissioner Anderson and the Secretary, in 1868, the expediency of abolishing the contract system was under consideration. It is, however, yet maintained to some extent. The Superintendent says: "You must either be a manufacturer or have a contract system. We are in advance of what we were formerly, yet we still have it. I put one of our officers in every shop, and no man there is allowed to reprimand our boys. This is the only contract we have, and it is, I think, made with an excellent man. There are twelve instructors in this department. One of these, a woman, gives instruction on the sewing machine. We have about one hundred and twenty boys working under contract."

School Rooms.—The school rooms are in each wing and are large, being composed of four adjoining rooms, separated by sliding doors, and are thrown into one room for opening and closing exercises. They are fitted up with modern school furniture. Among the many

mottoes on the walls is that from Pope: "Order is Heaven's First Law." Every boy goes to school three hours and a half daily. The institution possesses a spacious chapel where religious services are held; for the Catholic children by the Catholic chaplain, and for the Protestant children by the Protestant chaplain.

In the band room we found twenty boys practicing on cornet-band instruments, under the instruction of a band master. They seemed to have attained creditable proficiency. The oldest boy was about eighteen, the youngest twelve. The band is permitted, under proper supervision, to go to the city on certain occasions; sometimes on the invitation of citizens. The boys, it is said, behave well. At such times they wear a navy blue uniform, and have a wagon appropriated to their use.

At all meals the boys are marched into the dining rooms in double columns, arms folded and cap in hand, headed by martial bands. Military precision is observed in their marching to and seating themselves at the table. The following form of grace is in use: "We thank Thee, our Heavenly Father, for these gifts of Thy promise, and for this expression of Thy kindness. May Thy mercy keep us to Thyself through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen." The meal consisted of soup, fish, corn, potatoes and bread. The boys, it is said, have all they want, and appearances certainly warranted the statement. The dining room was adorned with pictures and mottoes, and the table was well furnished with table cloths, plates, knives, forks, spoons, water bowls, salt cellars, spice boxes, etc.

The bakery contains a brick oven, in which a batch of about five hundred loaves of bread can be baked at once. On Saturdays, ginger bread is baked for the inmates.

The kitchen is large, the cooking being done by steam. A patent machine is used for chopping meat for hash. It minces twenty-five pounds at a time.

The bath rooms are about one hundred feet long, by thirty wide. They contain stone vats about eighteen by twenty-four feet, and three and a half feet deep. They are heated by pipes passing around the bottom. Another pipe, with fifty jets of water, runs around the inner margin of the vats. The boys stand outside and wash in the jets of water. Every Saturday afternoon, summer and winter, the boys bathe in the vats. A conspicuous motto in this room is: "Cleanliness is next to Godliness."

The boys' dormitories are on long halls with tiers of cells, five hundred and sixty in all, well built, heated by steam and furnished with iron bedsteads. Each door has a strong iron hasp with a padlock. The boys are locked in at night.

The hospital contains nine iron bedsteads, with hair mattresses, and

has a bath room and water closet adjoining. We found in it one little boy who had hurt his ankle in the shop. He had been an inmate thirteen or fourteen weeks. There was another who had sprained his ankle jumping. The Superintendent says: "We had only one case of scarlet fever last year, although it was in the families all around the place. Two boys died during the year, one of scarlet fever and the other in an epileptic fit. We have a boy here now who is subject to these fits. We discharged him once, but were forced to take him again by order of the Court.

The washing for the whole establishment is done in three patent cylindrical washing machines. One of the machines is for sudsing the clothes, another is for boiling them, and the third for rinsing. The machines are run by steam power; the drying is also done by steam. The washing is all done by three boys, in two days. The ironing room is about twenty-four feet square; the mangling is done by three of the boys.

The large garden of the institution was found to be in excellent order, not a weed being visible. It supplies all the vegetables used. The garden is sub-drained, the work having been done by the boys.

Eight cows are kept, which yield barely milk enough for the coffee made in the Refuge.

The institution possesses an extensive piggery, which, on the day of visitation, contained about sixty or seventy pigs, and some seventy good-sized hogs. This is conveniently arranged, not only with reference to the proper care of the animals, but to convenience in feeding and slaughtering. The refuse of the kitchen is carried from its repository to each pen upon a tramway. This feature of the establishment, so far from being repulsive, as it is apt to be, through neglect, was quite interesting, from its evidence of thrift and cleanliness.

The closets adjoining the large yards were in excellent condition. They are peculiar in their construction, and are deemed worthy the attention of the managers of large institutions. They embody the principle of earth closets, and their product is utilized, being conveyed to the compost heap by means of a truck and tramway.

In regard to the employes of the institution the Superintendent remarks: "We require all to have a good moral character, and to be of temperate habits—that is to say, strictly temperate. The use of tobacco is forbidden on the premises. The boys will even smell it. They will all chew if they get a chance. With ten plugs of tobacco you could buy any thing of them. I once took a wad out of a boy's bosom containing over a pound. An affectionate mother sent it to her son in the bosom of his shirt. Another mother once wrote to me to furnish her boy with tobacco, the boy not being over eleven or twelve years of age. Mothers will smuggle it in to their children. Every visiting day plenty of it may be found in the yard."

The Superintendent, on being asked if he had ever known the boys to conspire against him, said: "We never have had any organized conspiracy but once, three months after I came. The plan was to tell the patrolman that some one wanted to come in at the back gate, and when he was unlocking it to knock him down and escape. They were armed with knives; a large number refused to obey the officers. I asked the leader to come to me. He at first declined, but at last came. I took him into the office and examined him and examined them all one by one, and they gave up their knives. In the evening, after school, I went in and talked to them. I went to the Executive Committee and had three of the older ones sent to the penitentiary. None of the boys have since had any idea of harming an instructor or an officer. In this case a boy disclosed the plot, as they always will.

"In the spring the boys have great sport with kite flying. They make the kites themselves out of strips of newspapers. The boys in one yard will send up a kite, then those in the other yard send up theirs; the kites become entangled, and one is captured, when the triumphant party are very jubilant.

"The boys also play base ball in the proper season, and have several clubs; among which are the Red and Blue Stockings, and the Spider club. The latter wear a blue spider on their shirts. The Fly club have a red fly for their badge. Another club is called the Excelsior; another the Star. The boys play scientifically, keeping well posted in the latest changes in the game. I believe as much in boys playing well as in their working well. Every Saturday evening for some time they have had games with outside clubs. In fourteen games out of fifteen our boys beat. In cold weather the boys indulge in foot ball and in skating."

The average number of inmates during the year ending December 31, 1875, was about four hundred and four. The total expenditures of the Refuge were \$77,921.45; of which \$64,796.37 was for current expenses. Its real estate comprises forty-two acres of land, which originally cost \$4,200. Its present value, however, is estimated at \$200,000, and that of the buildings at \$165,150.

A visit to this institution impresses one with its orderly and business-like management, and the perfect system which pervades every department. The marching and other movements of the boys are performed with military precision, and with evident pride in excelling in all they do. The school is an admirable one, and is conducted by an efficient corps of teachers.

The Female Reformatory.—By act, chapter 228, passed May 1, 1875, the powers of the Refuge were enlarged to include girls as well as boys, and an appropriation of \$75,000 was made to erect a separate building

THE HOME FOR CHRISTIAN CARE.

Sing Sing.

The Home for Christian Care was incorporated by an act of the Legislature, May 6th, 1874. It is located on a farm of forty acres, donated to the institution, pleasantly situated on the Hudson river, two miles from Sing Sing, and one and a half miles from Pleasantville Station, on the Harlem Railroad. Upon the farm is a commodious dwelling-house. The house was opened for the reception of children January 10, 1874. At the time of our visit to the Superintendent there were fourteen children in the Home under the care of a Matron or House Mother, assisted by her daughter.

The object of the Home is stated by its Superintendent, the Rev. B. B. Leacock, to be as follows:

"Our work begins as a reformatory for neglected and vicious children, and a training school for teachers, nurses, Bible readers and other agencies for benevolent work. We propose to stretch forth a helping hand to the homeless and degraded children that crowd our streets and fill our prisons, and to try upon them the effects of the wholesome, loving discipline of a Christian home. To do this we desire to gather such children as may come under our care into families of about twelve. Each family will occupy its own house. At its head there will be experienced Christian persons, who will hold to the children the relations of father and mother. Associated with them will be several younger men or women, who have devoted themselves to the Lord's work. They will hold to the children the relations of elder brothers and sisters, and through them much of the work of reformation it is hoped will be accomplished. They will have intimate intercourse with the children at all times, be helpers to them in their studies, work and play, and by their example, counsel and admonitions will be insensibly reclaiming these lost ones, and recalling them to the paths of virtue and holiness.

"The means relied upon for effecting this are two-fold. First, removal from the impure atmosphere of the city to the pure, invigorating air of the country. Second, removal from the contaminating influences of their old life to the elevating influences of the Christian home.

"The family at the Home do their own work. In this family are mixed the boys and girls. As soon as we get more means we intend to enlarge the work by building additional houses for families of twelve or fourteen. The influence of the family upon the children is excellent. Many of the children on coming here had the worst of habits, and were addicted to the use of bad language. After a while they were, through the influence of the Home, cured of these, and show now a marked improvement."

In a recent report we find it stated that during the preceding year sixty applications had been made for admission, out of which only sixteen children had been received into the Home, the larger number being rejected because of the lack of accommodations.

The conception of institutions of this kind, having in view the proper training and reformation of homeless and degraded children, under the family system, in the country, is a noble one, and it is to be hoped that the enterprise will fully meet the sanguine expectations of its benevolent projectors.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF DESTITUTE CHILDREN OF SEAMEN.

West New Brighton (Staten Island).

This asylum is located on the grounds of the Sailors' Snug Harbor, on Castleton avenue. It was organized by several ladies whose attention had been called to the destitute condition of the families of seamen, and in the spring of 1846, an effort was made to provide an asylum for the children of these families who neither came under the head of orphans nor half-orphans. The first house occupied was at Stapleton, Staten Island, and four children were provided for at its commencement.

At the date of visitation, October 21st, we found the children assembled for evening worship. Their average age was about nine years. There were one hundred inmates in the institution, about half of whom were girls.

The children sang very sweetly for us, "Sweet Hour of Prayer."

From the Matron, Miss Drew, we obtained the following information: "We take none but seamen's children. We keep them till they are fourteen years old, when we put them out in homes where it will be convenient for us to visit them. We first put them out on three months' trial, after which papers are signed. We have been very successful in getting homes for our children, especially for the girls. We can accommodate one hundred and twenty. We receive children from two years of age upward. The boys work in the garden during the summer, in which they have flower beds of their own. We teach both boys and girls to sew. The boys sew two afternoons in the week in school, but the girls oftener. The boys are taught to make their own beds, sweep their own rooms and take care of them. We teach our girls to do all kinds of housework; one, about fifteen years old, can bake as nice bread as any housekeeper.

"The best homes for girls are in farmers' families. We do not want them to go out as servants, though we want them to be taught to

work. But if they go out as servants, they have to mingle with others who are inferior in character. We make it a point to visit children when placed in homes within visiting distance, and we have a committee who make it their special business to correspond with them after going from here."

The working force of the establishment consists of a matron, three teachers, a care-taker, two seamstresses, two laundresses, a dining room girl, two nurses, two cooks, a gardener and a woman for cleaning—sixteen in all.

A school is taught on the premises, and the younger children attend a *kindergarten*. The Matron says, "the time spent in the *kindergarten* is the happiest period of the day. We get no aid from the county or other public sources. The children are all healthy. We have not a sick child in the house, nor have we had any deaths during the year. We immediately separate the children who are complaining, from the others, when any sickness breaks out. Three years ago we had scarlet fever in the house, but did not lose a child."

The institution possesses a very nice children's library of three or four hundred volumes. "The children go to church every Sunday morning, and attend Sabbath School on the premises in the afternoon at three o'clock. Teachers from outside come in, and are quite regular in attendance. We have a Superintendent who has been here a long time."

The children bathe every Saturday, and wash in running water.

In the dining room were tables and benches. Crockery plates, mugs, knives and forks are used, and the Matron says: "We would like to have chairs."

The dormitories were furnished with iron bedsteads and straw mattresses.

Nine hundred and ninety-three children have shared the benefits of this institution since its organization. The number of children received during the year ending September 30, 1875, was thirty-one. The number placed out by indenture two, and the number returned to parents or guardians, eighteen. There were in the institution October 1, 1875, twelve orphans, fifty-eight half-orphans, and sixty-one children having both parents living. Mrs. J. S. Lowell, the Secretary, says: "Such of the parents as are deemed to be able to contribute toward the support of the children are charged fifty cents per week. There are only a few cases, however, in which that amount is regularly paid."

The total expenditures of the institution during the year were \$10,571.11. The value of its invested fund is \$14,600.

The class of children coming under the care of this institution are those particularly in need of the help of the benevolent. Left to neglect the consequences are disastrous to society. The work in which

the ladies are here engaged is deserving of hearty encouragement. During the past year the invested funds of the Society have been encroached upon, two of its legacies having been disbursed. This was done rather than turn the children away. We were informed that the managers will be obliged to reduce their work still more unless liberal support is forthcoming.

The institution is thought to be well managed, and the children are under elevating influences. It is to be hoped that the attention of the benevolent will be more generally directed toward this worthy charity.

SOCIETY OF ST. JOHNLAND.

St. Johnland, Long Island.

The objects of this Society are —

"First. To provide cheap and comfortable homes, together with the means of social and moral improvement, for deserving families from among the working classes, particularly of the city of New York, and such as can carry on their work at St. Johnland; but this provision shall never be used for pecuniary emolument, either to the Society or to any of the agents in its employ.

"Second. To maintain a home for aged men in destitute circumstances, especially Communicants, who are deemed entitled to it by the churches to which they belong; to care for friendless children and youths, and especially cripples, by giving them a home, schooling, Christian training, and some trade or occupation by which they can earn their future livelihood; and, generally, to do such other Christian offices as shall from time to time be required, and are practicable by the Society, consistently with its benevolent designs.

"Third. To assist indigent boys and young men who desire literary education, with a view to the Gospel ministry, by affording them the opportunity for such education, and at the same time means of self-support by some useful employment. An Evangelical school or college, chiefly for training for the ministry, would come within the scope of the Society.

"Lastly, and as embracing its whole, to give form and practical application to the principles of brotherhood in Christ, in an organized congregation or parish, constituted by settled residents of St. Johnland."

St. Johnland is situated on the north shore of Long Island, about forty miles east of New York. It is reached by the Port Jefferson branch of the Long Island Railroad, from Hunter's Point, opposite East Thirty-fourth street, New York. The ride of a mile and a half which must be taken to reach the settlement from St. Johnland sta-

tion, is a pleasant one, upon a dry road, and affords delightful glimpses of the Sound in the distance. Trees border the highway on either side, prominent among which are the oak and cedar. The latter, in addition to the pleasing effect of contrasted color, particularly noticeable at the time of our visit on the 25th of October, made the air redolent with agreeable perfume.

The view of St. Johnland is abruptly and delightfully presented to the eye upon a near approach to the settlement. The private driveway connecting it with the main road passes a small sheet of water, shaded by large trees and enlivened by aquatic fowls.

The original building of St. Johnland, formerly an old farm house, has by artistic hands been wrought into a bower of sweetness. At the time of visitation the inclosure in front was filled with flowers and fragrant herbs, the porch graced with creepers and flowering plants, and the house within was one of order without stiffness. The outlook from here, upon the commodious buildings of the settlement, scattered here and there upon the slope facing southward and adorned with shrubbery and patriarchal oaks, upon the shady grove of pine, still higher and back of the buildings, affording a fine standpoint from which to scan the wide extent of water beyond was, in view of the objects which prompted the selection and beautifying of this settlement, quite inspiring.

In a recent report of its esteemed and venerable founder, Rev. W. A. Muhlenberg, D. D., the following interesting allusion to its origin is found: "The enterprise was first presented to the public in an imaginary account of it as in successful operation. This was done in the form of two letters, supposed to be written by one who had made a visit to the place when it was some ten or twelve years old. This 'Retro-prospectus,' as it was called, attracted considerable attention as, at least, an entertaining ideal, and some became so much interested in it as to supply the means for beginning its realization."

In October, 1865, after much search in various directions for a suitable locality, a farm was found in Suffolk county, on the north shore of Long Island, about five miles east of the town of Northport, in the purchase of which eight* benevolently disposed gentlemen took a share.

The estate comprises five hundred and sixty-five acres, two hundred and twenty-five of which are arable land, the remainder, woodland and salt meadow.

The property was originally in "an extremely neglected and impaired condition; the first steps in improvement were to restore and renovate it; to convert the dilapidated old farmhouse into a comfortable habita-

* Robert B. Minturn, William H. Aspinwall, Adam Norrie, John Caswell, Percy R. Pyne, John H. Swift, J. F. Sheafe, Franklin Randolph.

tion, since enlarged into what is now called the Mansion; to repair and add to the farm buildings; to fence in and fertilize the tillable land, and lay out vegetable grounds, etc.

"Husbandry did not enter much into the original plans of the work; but with so many prospective mouths to fill, so much available land could not be allowed to lie fallow. What was possible in the way of agriculture was attended to."

The Society of St. Johnland was incorporated in 1870.

On the day of visitation we found about one hundred and thirty-five children in the place, about equal proportions of boys and girls. One of the buildings is called the "Spencer and Wolfe Home," being given by the ladies whose names it bears, Mrs. C. L. Spencer and Mrs. Catherine Wolfe. The cost of this Home was \$7,500, all of which sum these ladies subscribed. There were here forty-two children, ranging in ages from three to fifteen. The Home, with about an acre of land, is inclosed with a picket fence, painted green. It has a great apple tree in front. A little porch is at its entrance covered with morning glory and rambling creepers. Flowers in pots were cherished beneath it, flower culture being one of the amusements of the larger girls. The house is fitted up with dormitories, dining room, bath rooms, and all conveniences. The dormitories are furnished with iron bedsteads, clean white counterpanes and pillow cases, mattresses of straw and husks. Cribs are provided for the babies. Careful provision is made for dolls in a toy house, where are to be found chairs for the dolls to rest their limp and broken limbs upon. In the dining room of this Home the children were partaking of their mid-day meal. They were variously dressed, and seated like a family around a table covered with a snow-white cloth. The room was brightened with pictures of home life, and looked out upon a yard radiant with the bloom of flowers, in the culture of which the children had rendered assistance, the whole presenting a happy sight. "This house provides all things necessary for the comfort and education of the children, most of them former patients of the Children's Ward in St. Luke's Hospital, and brought hither when no longer amenable to surgical treatment. As they become old enough they are transferred to either the Boys' House or the Grown Girls' Department, and taught type-setting or some other occupation whereby they may hereafter support themselves."

West of this is the Boys' House, a frame cottage one story and a half high. It is likewise inclosed with a green picket fence, and accommodates about thirty-six boys, varying in age from twelve to eighteen. A very large oak tree stands on the lawn in front of this house; a flower bed is on each side of the porch, and numerous flower-pots on the porch. In the library, which is used during the day for a school room, is a large photograph of Master John R. Chisholm, a memorial put up

by his mother, who built and furnished the cottage at a cost of \$8,000. This cottage also contains a school room for the middle and infant classes. The upper part of the cottage is devoted to dormitories. These are furnished with iron bedsteads and the ordinary furniture, including chairs. Each bed has two mattresses. The refectory is in the basement. There is also a place here for the boys' clothing, combs, etc., each boy having a little cupboard. The house is warmed by a furnace and lighted by kerosene. The ceilings are high and supported by iron posts. The Superintendent, Frederick Briden, and his family, reside here. A brass band, with eight performers, is made up from among the inmates.

The closets are outside the building. Back of the house is a swing.

The printing office is a large two-story frame building. The type setting and printing are done on the first floor. The Superintendent, Mr. Thomas J. Hyatt, asserts that great inconvenience is experienced for lack of a steam press. Back of the printing department is a small building where the forms of stereotyping plates are cast. Twelve boys were employed in the printing rooms, who were thus enabled to earn a support, and who, but for this, would be entirely dependent. The buildings of this department were originally the gift of the late Mr. F. F. Randolph. They have since been enlarged so as to double their business capacity. The first industrial undertaking of the place was "type setting by the boys and girls, mostly crippled, for the manufacture of stereotype plates. Mr. J. J. Golder, the first and faithful Superintendent of the place, undertook the work, being, fortunately, ably qualified for the charge by his previous profession, which he resigned, at pecuniary disadvantage, to take charge of the whole work at its outset."

On an elevated site north of the printing office is the Church of the Testimony of Jesus, "a goodly rural sanctuary, seventy feet long and sixty feet wide across the transepts. It was begun in 1869, and completed in the autumn of the year following, at the cost of \$11,000, the sole gift of Mr. Adam Norrie. His daughter furnished the bell, also a beautiful communion service of silver, and other accessories. An elegant marble font was given by Mrs. S. Weir Roosevelt, and through the voluntary agency of her son, Mr. Hilborn Roosevelt, several gentlemen united in the gift of a fine organ. The church accommodates about three hundred persons, and is open regularly for Divine worship by the resident minister."

Another frame building, consisting of a main with two wings, is called "St. John's Inn," or the "Old Man's Home." It was built by the munificence of one gentleman,* at a cost of \$30,000. This is the most extensive building on the grounds. It is painted a buff color

* Mr. J. D. Wolfe.

with green blinds, and has porches covered with flowers. About ten crippled people belonging here, were then at St. Luke's Hospital awaiting surgical inspection. An extension northward contains accommodations for ten grown girls, orphans, under training by the Sisters in the several industrial and household departments of the settlement. It is a provision for the care and instruction of unprotected girls from the age of fourteen upwards.

In the boys' department, in a large, well lighted room with a bay window, we found about forty little boys, ranging in ages from four to eleven. The dining room appeared to be general. The old men occupied two tables. The older girls likewise occupied two tables, and the children one. The laundry was furnished with portable washing tubs. The wings of this building are connected with the main by corridors.

The old men's department is a large room with the beds in alcoves around the room, a curtain in front of each forming an effectual screen. A table occupies the center of the room; comfortable rocking chairs and illustrated books are also among its accessories. Each alcove contains a wash-stand, a bureau and an easy chair. Over this room is another corresponding with it. One old man, on being asked what kind of a place St. Johnland is, said with emphasis: "Thank God, it is a good place!"

The house contains a sewing room. All the clothing is made on the place except garments that are donated. The shoes are bought. The kitchen was very neatly kept. Hop yeast is used in making bread.

There is on the grounds a large building designated as the Library and Village Hall. The Hall alone is at present in use.

About three-quarters of a mile west of St. Johnland, on the hill overlooking the Sound, is a house called the "Summer Rest-Awhile," a "summer retreat for poor women and children, given by the late Mr. W. H. Aspinwall. It accommodates from thirty-five to forty guests at one time." During the year 1874 two hundred and eighty-four weeks of country refreshment, divided among one hundred and forty-six city wayfarers, were afforded by this institution. Not only was the board of these poor people defrayed, but in many cases their traveling expenses also, besides contributions of clothing and other necessary aid to the destitute.

On the grounds is a fine old grove, from which a good view of the Sound is obtained. Seats around some of the trees afford opportunity for circles of little girls to sit and chat. Swings are suspended from other trees, which were freely used by large numbers of mirthful children, who, in their bright dresses, heightened the attractiveness of the landscape. A short walk through this grove brings one to the bluff, overlooking a broad expanse of the Sound, from which sea gulls were seen hovering here and there over its surface. The white sails on

the dark blue waters faded into indistinctness in the soft haze of a summer afternoon, and the dividing line between ocean and sky was dreamily obscure. In the belt of green foliage fringing the shore, pines, red cedars and Virginia creepers are prominent.

In summer the children are indulged in boating, and the boys bathe in the Sound every day. All enjoy a holiday on the 4th of July, and on September 16th, the birthday anniversary of Dr. Muhlenburgh, the founder of the institution.

The garden is large, and the orchard yields a good supply of fruits. The many facilities here afforded for the best physical development of the young, the wide range of hill and valley, grove and shore, the opportunities for the outflow of exuberant spirits, for healthful sports of all kinds, the bathing, swimming and boating, and rambles after berries in summer, the nut gathering in autumn, the skating and coasting of winter; all partaken of in a pure, moral atmosphere, with wholesome associations, kindly home care, in-door evening amusement, Christian education and training to usefulness in life, seem to leave little necessary to reach the highest moral and physical benefit to the young.

The number of permanent beneficiaries for the year 1875 was two hundred and twenty-five, of whom one hundred and fifty-two were children. The current expenditures were \$21,005.70.

As illustrating the nature of the work at St. Johnland, and what is being accomplished there, we quote from a report of the Society:

"As time goes on we feel increasing confidence and encouragement as regards our boys and girls. We have the pleasure to know that most of those who had been any time under our care are doing well outside. Some of them as type-setters are earning very liberal wages. Of others almost ready to be sent off, we are full of hope. One of our orphan Swedes is shortly to be placed with a respectable blacksmith in the neighborhood to learn the trade of his choice. Another is working as out-door man at St. Luke's, and saving up his wages to enable him to pay his board during the first year of his apprenticeship to a city carpenter—the goal of his ambition. Again, another lad old enough to leave us, is so loyal and attached a St. Johnlander that he declines a good opening in the city to become a garden apprentice with us, and so, by and by, to serve us always as a gardener. The girl whom we sent out this year is doing well in the position she has chosen. There has been no stronger illustration of the moral and Christian effect of St. Johnland training than in the case of this young girl. When she came to us three years since, she was so forward and ungovernable that we feared her companionship with our other young charges. When she left us we could not ask a demeanor more modest, dutiful and Christian.

"And so of many another, were it proper to write what is likely to

fall under the eye of those portrayed. A sketch of some of our beneficiaries, past and present, would be no dull tale. Many a pathetic story, and even romantic incident, would be unfolded in tracing the circumstances of destitution or bereavement which have made them our charge, while a singularly wide range of nationalities affords continual contrasts and diversities not a little refreshing and enlivening. Thus we have representatives from Norway, Sweden, Russia, Poland, Prussia, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, England, Scotland, Ireland, Cuba, Mexico and Central America, and among our household Christian names are Olga, Lugarda, Ghiradina, Regina, Ottric, Sweyn, Carl, Otto, etc."

From the same source we quote the following: "The children are not dressed alike, nor in any other manner ground into an artificial uniformity by unnecessary routine or cold repression. They have room for spontaneity. They have their own little possessions and predilections, take pride, the little girls especially, in the care and ornamentation of their home, and in the cultivation of their gardens; while the hardier divisions, in true boy fashion, find only too much scope, sometimes, for their free development, in their wide, out-of-door range, and nothing is more commonly remarked by strangers visiting the settlement than the natural, open manners of our young people."

In the report of the Society for the year ending December 27, 1875, it is stated that "the receipts of the past year have not been adequate to the maintenance of the place by about \$6,000." * * * Regarding its needs, and one of the methods by which it may be aided, we further quote:

"Miss Wolfe's devoted filial piety and generosity have made a very handsome advance toward an endowment of the Home erected by her father for the old men, but for the poor little children we have no settled provision. An endowment of their Home by means of berths, analogous to the charity beds of St. Luke's Hospital, but less costly, would be a very valuable aid. The sum of fifteen hundred dollars (\$1,500) would endow such berth or bed *in perpetuity*—the right of nomination to a vacancy being with the donor, subject to the ordinary regulations of the charity. May it not occur to bereaved parents to find some solace in keeping alive the name of a departed child in a memorial bed of this kind?

"Or again, such berths or beds can be maintained from year to year by annual subscriptions of one hundred dollars each, and churches and Sunday-schools, by combining to support a stated number of these beds, would both assist our income and be themselves gainers in the use of the charity to which their patronage would entitle them."

The Society of St. Johnland is under the control of a board of trustees. Its founder, Rev. Dr. Muhlenberg, is still its Pastor and Super-

intendent. The immediate work of the charity is committed to the care of the Sisters of the Holy Communion, of whom Sister Anne Ayres is Sister Superintendent, and Sister Jessie Stevens Assistant Superintendent. This community was organized in 1852. The rules of the Order are simple, each Sister binding herself for a term of three years, renewable at her option, while probationers are required to spend a novitiate of six months before admission to the Order. Their habit resembles the ordinary attire of a gentlewoman, and they reside wherever their work requires their presence.

This Society, though organized but a comparatively short time, has made its work felt upon the afflicted of New York. Its sphere of usefulness is widening, and the work which, by its self-denying effort, has been and is being accomplished in St. Johnland, is one more link connecting it with the grateful thanks of every well-wisher of suffering humanity.

ST. JOSEPH'S ASYLUM AND HOUSE OF PROVIDENCE.

Syracuse.

This Asylum occupies a large plain brick structure, standing upon a slight eminence a little back from the highway, and approached through an avenue of shade trees. It is about two miles, in a south-westerly direction, from the railroad depot. The farm belonging to the House contains about sixty acres, and its bountiful crops and rich meadows give an idea of plenty quite in keeping with the objects of the institution.

The building now occupied was formerly the City Almshouse. It is three stories high, is supplied with rain water and heated by furnaces. The ceilings are high and the window sashes are hung with cords, weights and pulleys. The cellar is used for storing coal and vegetables and for washing. On the first floor are the reception rooms, class rooms, dining room and kitchen. On the second floor are the apartments of the Sisters, sleeping rooms and sewing room. On the third floor are the children's dormitories, the clothes' room and chapel. On the first floor is a broad hall, ninety feet long by twenty-three feet wide, into which open the dining room, kitchen, apartments for adult inmates, school room and the play room for boys and girls. The apartments on the second and third floors open upon a gallery overlooking the lower halls. The gallery is protected by a balustrade.

The House of Providence is the property of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Syracuse, and was incorporated under the general law of the State. It is conducted by the Roman Catholic Order of the

Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul. Eight Sisters are engaged in the work, Sister Beata McFaul having principal charge. A farmer is employed to superintend the farm work.

At the date of the visitation, September 6, the house contained a considerable number of adult inmates, including several aged and infirm blind persons. We were informed by Sister Theonetta, that it was not intended hereafter to receive adults, but to confine the work of the house to the care of destitute boys, thus effecting a desired classification. It is thought that the house would accommodate one hundred boys if it had no adult inmates. Sister Theonetta says: "We receive children from four to eleven years of age, and keep them until twelve or thirteen. Some are sent here by the Superintendent or Overseer of the Poor, and come in a very neglected condition. Some of them are adopted into families. The intention of the house is not to receive infants, but we have now three, from six to twelve months old."

Among the boys there was one who was a cripple and had been such from his birth. Another was an idiot and was in his thirteenth year. As we entered the class-room, the boys were kneeling and repeating prayers in response to the teacher. There were between forty and fifty in the school-room, intelligent looking children.

The boys were variously dressed; the older ones in jackets and the little fellows in blue check aprons. Their hair is cut close. After school was over they were permitted a brief season of play in the hall; they then marched around the hall several times, two by two, in company with the teacher, falling into line as they marched and so proceeded to the dining room. The tables here were well supplied and furnished with table-cloths and crockery. The old people ate with the children, the youngest of the latter occupying baby chairs. The usual form of grace was repeated before eating.

The dormitories, of which there were two for the boys, one for the larger and another for the smaller, presented a very cheerful appearance. The beds were very comfortably made up, with plenty of straw in the ticks, covered with blue spreads and supplied with good-sized feather pillows. The bedsteads were single and of iron, two feet four inches wide. The floors were scrupulously clean.

One of the rooms in the house was called the "old ladies' ward." It was a well-lighted, cheerful apartment, having windows on two sides. Colored counterpanes were on the beds, which were furnished with double pillows. Two strips of rag-carpet, made in the house, were laid through the center of the room. Here were a number of old ladies, two of them blind, engaged in knitting or sewing. The stockings that they were knitting were thick and warm.

The clothes room of the house was a very nicely-kept apartment

and well supplied. In this room was a chest of clothing just received, which had been donated and which it was intended to make over into garments for the inmates.

The farm land is being improved and brought into a higher condition of productiveness. On the premises is a large barn resting on a stone foundation. It is in contemplation to erect other needed out-buildings, as time and means will permit. A great deal needs to be done upon the house itself to bring it into perfect repair and adapt it to its present use, but a good beginning in this direction has already been made, and the management of its internal affairs are evidently in the hands of zealous and energetic ladies. The asylum is in the way of accomplishing a great amount of good.

The whole number of persons received during the year ending September 30, including children, was seventy-nine; the number discharged, fifty-four; of the latter, three were placed out by adoption, eight returned to parents or guardians, two left without permission, thirty-eight were otherwise discharged, and three died. The total expenditures during the year were \$9,833.34. Its total indebtedness was \$11,668, of which \$9,630 was upon real estate.

The number of children in the Asylum October 1, was sixty-eight. Of these, ten were orphans, fifty-two half-orphans, and six had both parents living. Twenty were of native parents, and forty-eight of foreign. Sixty-three were from Onondaga county; from Albany and Hamilton, each two; from Cortland, one. Ten were partially or entirely supported by parents or friends, forty-six by counties, towns or villages, and twelve by the State.

NEW YORK ASYLUM FOR IDIOTS.

Syracuse.

This institution stands upon an elevated site, commanding a view of the city of Syracuse and beautiful country surroundings. Its grounds are extensive and tastefully laid out, being planted with ornamental trees and a great variety of shrubbery. Graveled roads lead from the gateway, right and left, to the main building. A stone wall with embattled comb incloses its front, back of which is a nicely trimmed hedge. Within the gateway is a brick lodge with a slate roof. In front of the main building is a graded lawn, terraced and neatly kept. Luxuriant creepers clamber about the imposing porch at the entrance, which is reached by a flight of stone steps. The building is intended to combine in its construction all modern improvements, and is capable of accommodating about two hundred and twenty inmates. The institu-

tion is under the control of a Board of Trustees, of which the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State, Comptroller and Superintendent of Public Instruction, are *ex officio* members. It is under the immediate superintendence of H. B. Wilbur, M. D., who is aided by a corps of assistants.

The building at Syracuse was completed and occupied in 1855, but the institution was commenced in Albany and conducted there for four years. It was incorporated July 10, 1851.

It is comparatively a recent period since the practicability of the education of idiots was most successfully demonstrated by Dr. Edward Seguin, of Paris, who organized a school for the purpose in 1838. Since his time, institutions for their care have sprung up in most of the older countries. New York was the second State in the Union to establish an asylum for idiots. The first school in the United States for this class, was opened at Barre, Mass., in 1848, by Dr. Wilbur. It was a private institution, begun in the month of July of that year, and continued under Dr. Wilbur's care until he assumed charge of the New York State Asylum in 1851. He remained at Albany until 1855, and then moved to Syracuse, taking with him his corps of trained assistants.

"The design and objects of the asylum, as established by the action of the Legislature, are not of a custodial character, but to furnish the means of education to that portion of the youth of the State not provided for in any of its other educational institutions. Those only will, therefore, be received into the asylum who are of a proper school age, and they for such periods of time as shall, in the estimation of the Board of Trustees, suffice to impart all the education practicable in each particular case.

"Children between the ages of seven and fourteen, who are idiotic or so deficient in intelligence as to be incapable of being educated at any ordinary school, and who are not epileptic, insane or greatly deformed, may be admitted by the Superintendent with the advice and consent of the Executive Committee."

The last visitation to the asylum was made October 28. The house is well arranged, provision being made for every want of the helpless class to which it extends a welcome. There are comfortable beds, clean, airy rooms, well-supplied dining tables and ample arrangements for bathing. The school exercises are suggestive of the wants of this class and of the intelligent and humane efforts that have been made to supply them. In speaking of them, Dr. Wilbur said: "The children in the lowest room, which is provided for those in the lowest form of idiocy, have certain exercises which are adapted to their capacity. Starting from this point, there is a series of exercises so graded that there is no abrupt step experienced in passing up to the

ordinary elementary studies of a primary school. Children come in of every grade of intelligence. We put them on the grade to which they belong and then carry them up."

In the primary class were a number possessing the lowest form of intelligence, engaged in their first exercise, which consists in stringing iron rings, the holes in the center of the rings being about half an inch in diameter. The pupil, holding a string with a large needle at the end in one hand, and an iron ring in the other, tries to put the needle through the hole in the ring and so string it on. This affords him amusement, and if he finds himself successful, he receives additional pleasure. Then he is given large beads or wooden buttons to string, each exercise being rendered more difficult than the one immediately preceding by the smallness of the hole. In a more advanced exercise a board is used, in which are a series of holes. The pupil is furnished a number of iron pegs which he puts into the holes in the board. A still more difficult exercise was being practiced, in which some boys and girls were playing with oblong boards, out of which a number of variously shaped pieces had been cut. The pupils were endeavoring to put these pieces back in their proper places, their success or failure in doing so occasioning considerable merriment. The contrivance for teaching boys to walk naturally, without shuffling their feet, is quite ingenious and constructed on the principle of a treadmill. In this two boys are placed, one who can walk and another who does not. The first begins to walk, and in doing so turns the mill. The other is then obliged to lift his feet at regular intervals. A ladder with side-pieces six inches deep, the cross-pieces of which are made of flat boards three inches wide, is laid on the floor and children are taught to step over the cross-pieces, also to walk by stepping from bar to bar.

We witnessed in one of the class rooms an exercise intended to develop the power of attention through the eye and ear. Dr. Wilbur says: "Children on coming here are to a greater or less degree deficient in the power of attention; therefore all our exercises are framed with a view to the development of this power. The gymnastic exercises engaged in are not so much to develop muscular power as to cultivate the attention and bring the muscular system under the control of the will, which is the first step toward bringing the intellectual faculties under such control." The children were seated at their desks, and held in their hands each a pair of dumb-bells. At one end of the room, on a dais, was the teacher who played upon a piano, and before it, facing the pupils, stood a little girl with her back to the teacher, who led the others. As the teacher played, the children marched and performed various evolutions, in which the use of the dumb-bells formed a conspicuous part.

In another room we were treated to a performance by a singing and whistling class. Fifteen boys and girls stood about a piano which was played by a lady teacher. Two of the boys whistled while the others, with the girls, sang. The singing was very good, and the time quite correct. In one of the class rooms the children appeared much interested in a lesson designed to teach them to distinguish color by the use of a series of wooden cups and balls of different colors. For each cup there was a ball corresponding in color. These were placed on a table with the balls misplaced, and the pupils were instructed to take them out and arrange them, each in its proper cup. An amusing exercise was that intended to teach them form and color. A series of cards of different shapes and colors were produced, and a pattern given to the pupils, who were required to put them together so as to make an exact copy of the pattern.

An exercise which, although apparently trivial, yet shows the helplessness of this class and the necessity for the thorough training and drilling to which they are subjected, is that of teaching them how to lace their shoes. A shoe with a stuffed stocking within it, is laced up as it should be when worn, and is then unlaced and the pupils are required to lace it. Simple as is the process, it takes in some instances a great deal of time to inculcate it. In another room the art of writing was being taught. The first lesson is that of making plain strokes. A series of dots in pairs were first made by the teacher, and the pupil was then required to draw lines connecting each pair. This is intended to teach them to place the strokes at equal intervals.

For the second lesson they are taught to make crosses, right angles, triangles, etc., and for the third to write the letters of the alphabet. From letters they proceed to words, and so on to sentences.

A lively scene was witnessed in an exercise on word cards. The children were allowed to select cards out of a bundle, were asked to call out the words upon them, and then questioned a little about the object so represented. For instance: The word "rice" was picked out. The teacher asks, "What is this good for?" "Good to eat," shout the children. "Mitten" is drawn. "What is a mitten used for?" "To put on the hand." Another draws the word "nose." "Show me your nose." They all point to their noses. The word "dumb-bell" is selected. "What is a dumb-bell for?" "To exercise." "Show me how you exercise." There is no mistaking this answer in the energetic swinging of their arms.

Another exercise is practiced by means of picture cards, for object teaching. A card with a butcher shop on it was shown. "What do you see in it?" asked the teacher. "Mutton, beef, knife, chopper," and whatever else the picture includes.

Some of the brighter pupils were exercised in word-making. A

word was written on the blackboard, and they were required to make all the words they could out of it, using only the letters it contained. The word selected was "Mediterranean," from which the pupils readily made a number of words, such as "In," "Ida," "Dan," etc. Some of the boys, we were told, could make four hundred and thirty-nine words out of the word "congregationalist," which is capable of six hundred different combinations. A copy-book was shown us in which all these words had been written out by one of the pupils. The boys here were very clean and neat, wrote fairly, and drew creditably. "One of them," the teacher says, "began in the lowest school-room stringing rings. Another, when he came to us, could not talk."

In the sewing-room a sewing-class was receiving instruction. Here were shown us specimens of fancy lettering done by the girls, also pin-cushions, patchwork quilts that they had made, and some stockings that they had knit. The first thing here taught is the cross stitch. This, we were told, was very difficult for some to learn. One girl, it was stated, could read the Bible, but yet could not make a cross stitch. Some of the girls were so far advanced as to be able to make toilet covers, cornucopias, tidies, etc.

The girls are also trained to make beds, to lay tables for dinner, and to do all ordinary housework. The dishes used in teaching them are made out of cards, and when they are receiving lessons in ironing cold irons are used. Some of the girls were in the laundry regularly at work. Some of the boys go out to work on the farm under competent supervision.

Among the pupils was one formerly on Randall's Island. He was at that time very ignorant, in the habit of driveling at the mouth and accustomed to hold his head down. He did not seem to know the name of any object. He now reads, writes, multiplies and subtracts, and has, the teacher says, gone as far as interest in the arithmetic. He can go to the city and buy whatever he is directed to purchase, and he has some money laid by in the bank. Under proper supervision he is now regarded as self-supporting.

Another was a little boy, six or seven years old, familiar to the writer from his having been an inmate of the Erie county poor-house. His left leg, on coming to the institution, was drawn up against the right thigh, and both his lower limbs were greatly contracted. He propelled himself by placing his hands on the ground. His legs were straightened by an operation, and when we saw him he could stand upright and was gradually acquiring their use. He had made remarkable proficiency in every respect since becoming an inmate.

Fifty acres of land are attached to the institution; about fifteen or twenty acres of which are under garden cultivation. Grapes in great abundance are raised and consumed upon the place; also rasp-

berries of different varieties, currants, strawberries and every variety of vegetables. Back of the grounds, on an eminence, is a beautiful grove of forest trees, embracing six or seven acres. In pleasant weather the children are permitted to take exercise here.

On the grounds is also a green-house for starting flowers for the lawn, and vegetables for the garden. The orchard is well stocked with choice fruit trees; plums, cherries, apples and pears all being raised in abundance.

A little rearward of the main building is the farm house, a two-story frame building with a porch in front, extending the whole length and looking out upon the grounds and lawn. Thirteen or fourteen of the older boys work upon the farm, and make their home with the farmer who resides here.

Ample stables, barns and an ice house are upon the premises. Ten cows are kept. The water supply is from the city, and there is a small reservoir in the upper part of the grounds that will serve in case the supply from the city should fail. The rain water is saved in ample cisterns.

The Matron, Miss Woods, says: "Very little trouble is experienced in disciplining the children. Sometimes it is necessary to speak sharply to them, but we can generally restrain them by gentle measures, and by depriving them of something they desire. They are very fond of dress."

There were in the institution Oct. 1st, one hundred and ninety-six children. Of these fifty-six were orphans; eighty-four, half orphans; and fifty-six had both parents living; ninety-two were of native parents, and one hundred and four of foreign. They represented counties as follows: Twenty-eight were from New York; twenty-four from Kings; twenty-one from Onondaga; fourteen from Erie; eleven from Oneida; seven from Chemung; from Cayuga, Columbia, Orange, and Rensselaer, each five; from Albany, Chautauqua, Herkimer, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Queens, Ulster, and Westchester, each four; from Cortland, Montgomery, and St. Lawrence, each three; from Broome, Delaware, Dutchess, Fulton, Ontario, Oswego, Schuyler, and Sullivan, each two; and one from each of the following; Chenango, Franklin, Niagara, Orleans, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates. Twenty-two were supported by parents or friends, and one hundred and seventy-four by the State. Beside the number mentioned above, there are fourteen pay-pupils from other States.

The total expenditures of the institution for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30th, were \$45,507.20. Of this sum \$1,500 was expended for buildings and improvements. The average weekly cost of support of the inmates, exclusive of clothing, was \$3.91.

An inspection of the institution and its highly improved grounds

confirms the wisdom of the State in making the investment and placing in charge one who is alive to the work and its capabilities. The money expended in purchasing and improving the property has been more than returned to the State in its enhanced value. The humanitarian feature of the work here being carried on, to which all other considerations are secondary, must be a source of gratification to every citizen. The patience and thoroughness displayed in the prosecution of the work, and the successful results with which it is crowned, reflect credit on the able corps of helpers which the superintendent has selected, some of whom have been with him from the very beginning of the undertaking.

The institution, it is believed, has done more than it proposed to do. Its object being, as has been stated, entirely educational, it was not intended to receive any of the idiotic class, but those susceptible of improvement, and these for only a limited period. The State having made no provision for the custodial care of idiots, a large number of both sexes who have received all the benefits that this institution can give them, still remain here for the lack of some other proper provision for them. Consequently, a large number who need its instruction cannot be admitted for want of room. It would seem, in view of the great good which this institution has already accomplished, that the same wise statesmanship and Christian philanthropy that first projected the enterprise should not hesitate to enlarge the work so as to include all of this helpless class that are now inmates of poor-houses where they generally sink into a condition differing but little from that of dumb beasts.

THE ONONDAGA COUNTY ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Syracuse.

The history of this charity dates back to the year 1835, and is connected with the public school system of Syracuse. A few ladies of the city, then a village, made an effort to furnish a common school education to the poor children of the town, and opened for this purpose a school on the 6th of July. It was taught by Miss Ann Mead, and was held in a vacant room of a store on West Water street. Several hundred dollars being raised by subscription, a building for school purposes was erected on a lot belonging to the Syracuse Salt Company, and opened in 1836. In this building the poorer children of the village for many years received their primary instruction.

This school was under the immediate charge of Miss Mead until the 11th of October, 1839, when adequate provision having been made by

the public for all the children of the village, the school-house was sold. The assets of the association were then found to be \$427.38.

The condition and wants of the orphan and destitute children of the city and vicinity soon arrested the attention of the benevolent ladies who had been members of this association, as well as others, and various meetings were held for the consideration of this subject. These resulted in forming, on the 21st of October, 1841, an Association for the Relief of Orphans and Destitute Children, and the funds of the former association were paid over to this new organization.

This was sustained by fairs and voluntary contributions. In 1845 the society was merged in the "Syracuse Orphan Asylum," which was incorporated May 10th of that year. A house was immediately rented in South Salina street, and the Asylum was opened with five girls and ten boys. The house was furnished, and the expenses of the year defrayed by voluntary contributions, without encroaching on the funds of the institution already invested, then about \$1,500. This house was occupied until the following year, when the present building, which, until then, had been known as the Syracuse Academy, was purchased for the exceedingly small sum of \$3,000.

The grounds were spacious, and by the addition, in 1848, of three lots in the north-east corner of the block, at a cost of \$1,000, provisions were made sufficiently ample for all the purposes of the Asylum. The comfort of the inmates has since been increased by the erection of a broad piazza on the west side of the building, by the introduction of gas, the addition of blinds, etc. In 1861, through the liberality of the late Horace White, Esq., an ample and convenient building for a school-house was erected on the grounds at an expense of about \$3,000. The name of this Asylum was, by an act of the Legislature, passed April 30, 1847, changed to the "Onondaga County Orphan Asylum," its present title.

Its finances are under the control of a Board of Trustees, and a Board of Lady Managers, selected from the various churches in the city, direct and manage its general affairs. The immediate charge of the institution is intrusted to a matron, Mrs. K. M. Woods, who is assisted by three teachers. The subordinate force of the asylum consists of a nurse, three seamstresses, a cook, a kitchen-maid, a dining room girl, two laundresses, two chambermaids and a steward.

The situation is elevated, and affords a fine prospect of the city, but the house being old, and not having been originally built for asylum purposes, lacks many conveniences which are now regarded as important.

The main building is heated by furnaces and lighted with gas. The windows are large, the sashes being suspended by cords, weights and

pulleys. Much inconvenience is caused by lack of adequate water supply, as the asylum is not reached by the city works. The rain water is carefully saved, and two wells are on the premises.

The dormitories are furnished with both wood and iron double bedsteads, straw beds and feather pillows. Strips of rag carpet are laid across the middle of the rooms.

Both the boys' and girls' clothes rooms showed ample provision for summer and winter wear. The clothes were all made in the house. The girls, at stated periods, are regularly taught sewing, both by hand and on the machine. The matron says: "I do not mean, however, to have them work for more than one hour a day after school." The children are variously dressed except on Sunday. The boys wear straw hats in summer and caps in winter. The girls have straw hats, with blue ribbons, and felt hats with scarlet velvet trimmings, also pretty sacques and shawls.

During our visit the children gathered in the dining room, which was furnished with long tables, covered with white cloths. Both crockery and tinware are used. The children, before partaking of the food, asked the following blessing: "For these refreshments of Thy mercy, O Lord, we bless and praise Thy holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen."

The school building, a brick edifice near the Asylum, is furnished with patent desks and seats and the usual modern improvements. The school is graded, and children, when they finish the curriculum of studies here, pass into the public schools of the city. It shares the benefits of the singing and drawing masters of the public schools. Many of the children have quite a talent for drawing. The capacity of the school is already quite large, but President White, of Cornell University, has, we were informed, generously offered at any time to increase its accommodations if need be, rather than that the children from this and other counties whom it is desired to send here should be denied admission.

The children entertained us by singing: "Our Father in Heaven," and "Little Boy Blue." Above the school room is a large assembly room, extending the full size of the building, containing an organ and a reading desk. The walls are tinted and illuminated with cards, scripture engravings and mottoes. Sunday-school is held here, in which the ladies of the city take great interest.

The bathing arrangements are inadequate, but this is being remedied by the construction of bathing rooms, to be supplied with rain water. Great pains is taken to keep the children clean. The matron says: "Every morning they are washed, their hair combed with a fine comb, and no child is allowed to go into school until fittingly prepared."

A large apartment on the first floor is used for a children's playroom.

This, at the time of our visit, was clean and airy; flowers were on all the window sills, and several photographic groups of children hung on the walls.

The Nursery is furnished with double bedsteads, cribs and baby chairs. Here a bevy of little ones were encountered, all happy as butterflies, and appearing very natural and noisy. Their hair was nicely combed, and their faces indicated kind and thoughtful attention. The condition of many of these children, on arrival, is very deplorable. Mrs. Woods says: "They show evidence of extreme want and neglect."

A pleasing feature about this institution is the children's reading-room, which contains a library of two hundred volumes. Illustrated papers, such as the *Christian Weekly*, little picture rhymes and story books, the *Saint Nicholas* and the *Youth's Companion*, were found in the room. A benevolent gentleman had left the institution a sum of money, the interest of which is to be yearly expended on the children's periodical, "*The Chatter Box*." On the walls of the room were quite a collection of prettily framed pictures, presents received by the children at Christmas time. This was, preëminently, the children's apartment, and when any of the little folks, under the temptation of looking at a picture book or reading a story, wished to steal away by themselves, they came here.

Many of the children belong to a temperance society in the city called the "*Cold Water Temple*;" "and sometimes," Mrs. Woods assured us, "as many as fifty go there at once by themselves, the older ones looking after the younger." "My larger girls," she further says, "I can always trust alone. And I can send my larger boys with money to the bank with entire safety."

The infirmary is a comfortable apartment. It was without any occupant. "The children," Mrs. Woods says, "are usually very healthy; no deaths have occurred during the past year." The closets are detached from the building and adjoin the play-ground.

In connection with the asylum is a vegetable garden and orchard where potatoes, corn, tomatoes and other vegetables are raised, also apples, plums and cherries. The institution possesses two milch cows.

The number of inmates on the day of visitation, September 16, was one hundred and thirty-five, of whom fifty-four were girls. In regard to the latter, Mrs. Woods remarks: "I have made it a special work to see that our girls are properly cared for. It was generally understood, when I came here, that this institution was no place for girls, and few came here. Now the opinion is changed, and the number of girls coming under our care is increasing. We take children at two and a half years old; sometimes in cases of necessity at two years, and in a few instances we have taken them as young as twenty

months. The age of fourteen years is the nominal limit for keeping the children, but we generally hold them till good homes are found.

"The usefulness of the institution might be enhanced by making provision to teach the boys trades. Boys need the restraint of a home most when fifteen years old. Many come here and take our boys, not because they love them, but because they want to get work out of them. The girls I can teach myself, but I cannot teach trades to the boys. I have some girls who will become teachers, others that I can qualify for nursery work. I make it a point to instruct them so thoroughly that they shall be able to earn good wages when they leave. We have one young man here in his eighteenth year who is preparing for college. Another of our boys is in a drug store, earning \$4 a week. He makes his home in the asylum. I buy his clothing out of his wages, and the remainder I put in the savings bank for him. Some of the larger girls also work outside for wages. I act the motherly part toward them; clothe them out of the money they earn and put the remainder in the bank on their account. One of these, fifteen years of age, has already saved \$100.

"I do not believe in shutting children up, frightening them or making them go without their meals. If a child needs a whipping, why I whip it and have it over. As much as possible, however, I let each little child grow up with any little ways and peculiarities it may have. I do not approve of destroying the children's individuality. I never teach these children that they are on charity, and that they must be everlastingly grateful for what is done for them. But I try to impress upon them, especially upon the boys, that it is not what people do for them that is going to avail, but what they do for themselves. I endeavor to convince the boys that they can be any thing they please if they will only try for it. I do not see why they should not fill positions of respectability as well as others. They often go out on vacations. Parties of them are frequently invited out to different places. They always do justice to themselves and behave like gentlemen."

The whole number of children received in the institution since its organization is two thousand and fifty-six. The number received during the past year was one hundred and seven, and the number discharged ninety-two. Of the latter, ten were placed out by adoption, eighty-one returned to parents or guardians, and one was otherwise discharged. The number remaining in the institution October 1, 1873, was one hundred and twenty-three, seventy-one boys and fifty-two girls. Of these, eighteen were orphans, sixty-two half-orphans, and forty-three had both parents living. How many of the children were of native, and how many of foreign birth, has not been reported.

The total expenditures during the fiscal year ending September 30,

1875, were \$7,709.13. The value of its invested fund is estimated at \$34,578.60.

When it is considered what would have been the results of leaving the large number of children cared for by this asylum to grow up in neglect, some conjecture may be formed of the immense benefits that have accrued to society, as well as the pecuniary benefits to the tax payer by its work, which, it is gratifying to note, is appreciated by the people.

For a long time before the passage of the late law requiring children to be removed from county poor-houses, the people of this county, acting through their Board of Supervisors, took means to place children under better influences than could be afforded them at the county house. This intelligent action, though resulting in great benefit, could not have been carried out without the help of the various asylums in the vicinity, and in this good work the Onondaga County Orphan Asylum largely participated.

ST. VINCENT'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Syracuse.

A narrow belt of green lawn, stretching in front and separating it from the street, appears to the visitor to give to this asylum a hint of seclusion from the busy city life around it. Its location, 20 Madison street, may be considered central. Its building, which is in the Italian style of architecture and is three stories in height with a basement, has been constructed with reference to combining all modern improvements. With a frontage of one hundred and a depth of fifty feet, and with a three-story addition in the rear, thirty by one hundred, it is capable of accommodating one hundred and fifty children inmates, besides two hundred day scholars.

The Asylum is under the charge of twelve Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity, Sister Tatiana White being Superior. This lady entered upon her duties here in 1856, and has been actively engaged in them ever since.

The history of the Asylum may be briefly stated as follows: "In 1852, the Sisters of Charity came to Syracuse and opened a school for girls. Seventy of these were taught free of charge, and thirty were paid for. There being no institution in the city having for its special object the care of orphan and destitute girls, a want was felt which the Sisters endeavored to meet by the establishment of a Female Orphan Asylum, where the girls might not only be taught the rudiments of an English education, but also those branches of domestic economy, and other important matters so necessary for every young

girl to know, in order to become a useful and self-supporting member of society." The work was begun with the care of two children.

The frame building at first used having been destroyed by fire, Bishop McCloskey donated the lot upon which the Asylum now stands, and a citizen of Syracuse, Mr. Cornelius Lynch, who died in 1857, made a generous bequest to the Asylum of \$4,000. But as this was not sufficient to meet the needs of the work, an appeal was made to the public and a like amount was raised by subscription, during the years 1860, '61 and '62. This, with the proceeds of fairs and festivals, was carefully husbanded, and, being supplemented by State appropriations of \$2,500 in 1864, and of \$5,000 in 1867, the institution was enabled to reach its present prosperous condition.

The Asylum was incorporated June 12th, 1860, and the spacious building now in use was erected during the years 1860 and '61. The door of the main entrance is ornamented with carved work and paneled with crown glass. A spiral stairway leads from the hall to the upper floors of the house, and in a niche in the hallway is quite appropriately placed a statuette representing St. Vincent carrying in his arms a little child.

The reception room is tastefully furnished, and has the air of a refined home.

Sister Tatiana says, in regard to the construction of the building: "Were we building again I would suggest some changes. For instance, direct ventilation, by having the windows and doors made opposite each other. A Superior from France, who had visited all our institutions, said that they had one fault, and that was, that while they had a great many doors and windows, scarcely one stood opposite another."

The domestic work of the Asylum is done entirely by the Sisters and the children. "Our girls," says Sister Tatiana, "take alternate weeks in the kitchen. One week a class is learning to make bread; another week the same class is at work in the laundry. The girls go to school in the morning, and the afternoon is devoted to industries and household occupations, under the supervision of the Sisters. Industrial schools and industrial teaching I regard as very necessary. Young girls from fifteen to seventeen years of age are very apt to lack judgment. Then is the time they most need a mother's care. In fact they seem to require more or less counsel until they are twenty-one.

"In imparting this industrial training, care is taken not to overdo it, or to waste the girls' time on work for which they have no capacity or taste." On this point the Sister makes the following very sensible remarks: "We study the capabilities of the children, and endeavor to develop the talents prominent in each. If in one it is for sewing, we train her in that branch of industry. If in another it is for any trade, she is afforded an opportunity to learn it. If her forte seems

to be housework, we give her a thorough training in that particular department. We board the girls while they are learning their trades, and then find them good situations in stores or private families."

In regard to the age for admitting children, the Sister says: "We take children at two years old, but we do not like to take them under three years. There ought to be an infant's house connected with every asylum. We object very much to taking a girl in the institution over seven years of age.

"I prefer to have our little ones adopted in families where there are no other children, and in the families of the middle class if possible. We do not like to let any of our girls go as servants into families where other servants are kept. They have to sleep with them, and the influence of this association is undesirable. Nor do we approve of our girls going out exclusively to nurse babies. In such cases they live upon the streets and are exposed to many snares. It is very likely to happen that some unprincipled men whom they meet will give them rings. The consequences to these unsuspecting girls may often be very serious. But one girl has ever reflected discredit upon us by her conduct after leaving. If we hear of any of our children being ill-treated, or in any danger, we write, and find out the particulars from some family living near. We had to bring one back the other day. I received two letters from unknown parties urging me to take one of our young girls away from the family where she was living. Then I received another begging me to take the child away, saying they wanted her out of the neighborhood. There was nothing bad in the family, but the associations of the neighborhood were such that the writer wanted her removed from that part of the city. We took the child away and secured her a good home elsewhere in town.

The Sister's method of looking after the girls when placed out she thus explained: "When people apply for a girl we require them to bring references from the place where they live. Then we make ourselves acquainted with one or two respectable families in the neighborhood, and ask them to let us know how she gets on. It is a continual anxiety to us."

The tables in the dining room were ranged with reference to the sizes of the children, small tables being used for the little ones and for the older children a size larger. All, except the table for the very small children, were covered with neat, white table-cloths. Crockery, plates, knives, forks, spoons and some tinware are used. The children have their food served out to them in portions, except the girls who are preparing to leave; their table is set very much like that of an ordinary family, the viands being placed upon it, and one or more of the girls acting as carvers. The food is of a generous and nutritious

character, this being regarded by the Sisters as an important element in fortifying against disease. Near the table for the larger girls is a reading desk. It is customary for one girl to read aloud while the others are eating. Each girl is expected to take her turn as a reader.

In addition to the ordinary meals the little children under ten years of age have lunches of bread at ten and at three o'clock. The children are always given something extra for supper on Sunday.

The custom of reading aloud is not only observed in the dining room, but is also carried into other departments of the house. In the sewing room, when the larger girls occupy it, one reads while the others sew. These girls are as far as possible kept by themselves, have their own sitting room and do not occupy the sewing room except in the afternoon. This department has three sewing machines, and coat making is carried on under the instruction of an experienced tailoress. Sewing, as well as every other industry, is taught in classes. The Sister says: "Every thing in the house is graded according to the ability and age of the children. Girls who are old enough are taught to use the sewing machine, but not before they are perfect with the needle. The older girls do their own dress-making, mending and millinery. They also take care of and clean their own rooms, and in this way prepare themselves for doing all these things after they leave. The ladies, we find, like our girls, because they are prepared to go to work at once."

Perfect system seemed to pervade the house. The clothes room is ample in size and arranged with seats on each side and a table in the center. Both ends are fitted up with closets divided off into compartments. Each compartment contains the clothing of one child, and is marked with her name.

The girls knit their own stockings by hand, and receive ten cents for every pair. They wear woolen stockings in winter. "I think," says the Sister, "the woolen are the better for winter. Children will sometimes get their feet wet when they go out, and are not as apt to catch cold with woolen as with cotton stockings."

The children have three changes of clothing for summer and three for winter. The winter clothing, when not in use, is packed away with camphor.

In regard to the dress of the children Sister Tatiana says: "We do not dress them all alike except when they go out. In winter, on fine days, they wear black sacques, Scotch plaid dresses, and drab colored hats, trimmed with cherry. On very cold days they wear waterproofs. In summer, the girls wear light dresses and black alpaca overskirts, trimmed with double ruffles." With this suit a white bonnet is worn. Another suit is a blue dress, white overskirt and blue bonnet. Yet another dress is the blue parametta, with either a shawl

or waterproof cape. A full set of red mittens and red scarfs is also provided."

In the clothes room is an ingenious contrivance, consisting of a number of pockets attached to a piece of cotton fabric, for the pocket-handkerchiefs of the children. Each child has a pocket appropriated to her special use.

The dormitories are furnished with neat French bedsteads, of wood color, varying in size. Those in the dormitory for the largest girls are six feet by three; in that for the younger girls, five feet four by two feet eight, while in the dormitory for the little ones the bedsteads are five feet by two feet and a half, and have side pieces a foot deep to keep the children from falling out. Corn husk mattresses are used for the larger girls and straw beds for the smaller. The straw beds were very thick, some a foot or more deep. White counterpanes were furnished for all the beds, and one or more of the Sisters sleep in each dormitory. The children all sleep singly.

In regard to the relative merits of wooden or iron bedsteads, the Sister says: "We prefer the wooden bedsteads; they are fully as clean as the iron. If there are bugs in the house they must go somewhere. It is folly to say that iron bedsteads keep them out. We use corrosive sublimate in the spring, the middle of summer and the last of November to protect ourselves from them. Saturdays and Sundays we throw all the bed clothes over the foot of the bed and air them, and adopt other devices to keep our beds clean. We do very well with the wooden bedsteads." The white counterpanes are removed at night, and colored spreads substituted. The rooms are swept out with damp saw-dust. The dormitory for the young girls who are preparing to leave contains eleven beds. A large cupboard for spare linen was shown. The linen for each dormitory was neatly folded away and had a separate mark and number.

The infirmary is furnished with beds and small cribs and other requisites for the care of the sick. At the time of our visit the only occupant was a little girl about eight years old who was suffering from paralysis. No deaths had occurred during the year. There was no prevailing sickness among the children. The Sister ascribed this in a great measure to her carefulness to have the children regular in their hours and in all their habits, as much of the sickness from which children usually suffer she attributed to irregularity in these respects.

The Sister says, "The children formerly suffered from frosted feet, but this is now prevented by using a little sperm oil, which we rub on the feet of those who are likely to be affected, with a piece of flannel." In regard to skin diseases the Sister remarks: "We very seldom have any. Should we have any cases of scabies we rub those affected very carefully with sulphur and salt, and put on them a flannel garment fit-

tember 30, 1875, was thirty; the total number discharged, nineteen. Of the latter, one was placed out by adoption, fourteen were returned to parents or guardians, and four were otherwise discharged. The average number of inmates during the year was one hundred and twenty-five.

The total expenditure during the period named was \$7,196.11. The total indebtedness of the institution is \$16,229.50. Of this sum, \$8,500 rests upon the real estate.

The order and thorough system manifest throughout every department of this Asylum were very noticeable, and suggestive of good results in the formation of habits of personal neatness, industry and methodical work in the girls subjected to its influence.

THE HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD, ROCKLAND COUNTY, NEW YORK.

Tomkin's Cove.

The House of the Good Shepherd is situated on the west bank of the Hudson river, about fifty miles from New York, and is in the township of Stony Point, Rockland county, Tomkin's Cove P. O. It is one mile above Stony Point, and may be reached by steamboat from the foot of Harrison street, New York, or by the Hudson River Railroad to Peekskill, thence by boats; or by cars of the New York and New Jersey Railroad to Stony Point, and thence by carriage. The property consists of ninety acres of land, rising rather abruptly from the river, on which it borders one-fifth of a mile. Most of the land is wild and uncultivated, and is used for pasture. About fifteen acres have been cleared, and are in grass or under cultivation. The place is well watered by a brook and several springs. From the house—one hundred and sixty feet above the river—an extended view, embracing features of great natural beauty, presents itself; the Hudson river with its shores from Tarrytown to Peekskill, the towns and villages of Tarrytown, Sing Sing, Peekskill, Haverstraw, Stony Point, Tomkin's Cove, Verplank's, Grassy Point, Croton, Montrose Point, and other places are included. On the north and west rise the Dunderberg, Temp, Black, and other mountains, forming the highlands of New York.

The finances of the institution are controlled by a Board of Trustees, and its immediate charge or working is undertaken by Rev. E. Gay, Jr., assisted by his wife.

In connection with this institution, though of a separate organization, is a ladies' association, called the Ladies' Association in Aid of the House of the Good Shepherd, Rockland county, New York. To this

organization the institution is largely indebted for its continued prosperity. These good ladies make, or otherwise furnish, almost all the clothing the children wear. Most of the provisions and supplies come also from this source.

The brief history of this delightful home for homeless children is substantially stated as follows: In August, 1865, a German widow died in Haverstraw, leaving three small girls and a little boy. She had been long sick and a pensioner of Trinity parish, Haverstraw. She left the children in the care of the rector of the parish, Rev. J. Breckenridge Gibson, D. D. One girl was in St. Luke's hospital for treatment, being a sufferer from hip disease. Temporary provision was made for the children, pending the solution of the question: What is to be done with them? A few days later the same pastor was called to the death-bed of an English woman, who with her husband was a communicant of his church. She left three little girls entirely destitute; for these also a temporary place was found, but in a home so poor and under such circumstances that they were destitute of the ordinary necessities of life. The wife of the early rector and founder of the parish previously mentioned, interested herself and friends on their behalf, and, as a result, a benevolent Christian lady donated the sum of \$500 with which to rent a house and buy some simple furniture. A widow, Mrs. Sarah A. Waters, was engaged to take care of the children. A house was taken for six weeks in Haverstraw village, and on the evening of February 13th, 1866, the little family was gathered and the work of faith commenced. On Easter Monday, April 1st, the family was removed to a larger house near the church of Garnerville. "Here, as a parish home, receiving also children from abroad, it was continued for five years, depending wholly on the daily gifts of Him who giveth daily bread. Kind friends were raised up to aid the work. A family of twenty or more children was fed, clothed, taught. But the rent was raised; the building was old and unsuitable. The earnest desire had long been felt to have a permanent home. The pastor had become deeply interested in the welfare of poor children. He and his wife determined to devote themselves to the work of caring for and educating such children. God had remarkably blessed their efforts in the work providentially intrusted to them. They looked about for a piece of land which might be purchased for the use of the house. After much time spent in the search and many disappointments, a tract of land was bargained for, and on March 4, 1871, sixty-four and a half acres of wild land was bought for \$5,500, and the deed given on payment of \$500, which was loaned by a friend, a mortgage being executed for \$5,000. In the meantime a Board of Managers had been chosen, and become incorporated under the general laws of the State. A grant of \$2,000 was made in the general charity bill of 1870, and on the 7th

of March, 1874, with psalms and prayers, the ground was broken for the House, and each member of the household removed a portion of earth for the foundation. A rough building was quickly erected, which gave shelter to the women and girls. The boys were quartered on the hay in the barn, and thus, on April 1st, was the family removed from Garnerville to Stony Point. The pastor and family, with one sick boy, were provided with rooms in a neighbor's cottage.

"The Legislature, in 1872, further appropriated the sum of \$15,000, and thus encouraged, the Trustees decided to purchase the remainder of the farm, embracing the river front of sixteen acres, with cottage and barn. The \$5,000 mortgage on the first purchase was paid off, \$4,000 was paid on the second purchase, and a mortgage of \$6,000 given on the same."

The institution is under the immediate care of its founder, the Rev. Ebenezer Gay, assisted by his wife, whose services are voluntary. Associated is a young lady, Miss Brinckerhoff, who, we were informed, not only gives her services without remuneration, but even insists on contributing to meet the regular expenses of the house. A teacher and assistant are hired; also a cook, laundress and seamstress.

At the date of visitation, October 27th, we found the Superintendent, upon our arrival, occupied in the extensive garden of the place with a large force of children variously employed.

There were then forty-three children in the house. They are received at a very early age, and are educated and trained for farm-work, service or trades.

One of the buildings is called the Girls' Home, or "Bee Hive." It contained about twenty inmates, and was provided with all the conveniences of a moderate home. It was under the charge of a lady of refinement and culture. The house was built from the timber of a disused brick-yard shed, and was intended for a work-shop. The lower part is now used as a school-room. A projection was added adjoining the school-room as a chancel, affording a place for service until such time as a church may be built. This building was first used November, 1872.

The grounds also contain a commodious hospital solidly built of stone, with brick trimmings. This is heated and ventilated in the most approved manner, and supplied with purest spring water. It was, we learned, built and furnished by a noble Christian woman* as a memorial thank-offering for Godly parents and beloved children. It was opened with religious exercises July 9, 1873, the founder with her husband and other friends being present, and a few days later its first patient, a teacher of the children, who was stricken with fever,

* Mrs. Dobney.

was admitted. Removed from the bustle and noise of a large household to the delicious quiet of the perfectly ventilated ward, and to the tender care of an experienced nurse and devout woman, who is ever ready in sickness or health to aid the work in every way, she rapidly recovered. Several children have enjoyed its benefits. It is brightened with mottoes, illuminated cards and pictures of a cheerful and elevating character. A nurse's room adjoins. Snow-white curtains and counterpanes and a little table at the head of each bed are also part of the furniture. The only patient was a doll, which was apparently receiving considerable attention from the younger members of the Home. The room was well lighted, having windows on three sides, one of which opened on a pleasant veranda with a delightful outlook. Not only were the stairs carpeted to deaden the sound of footsteps, but the hospital seemed to possess every adjunct to give quiet and comfort to those who might happen to be its inmates.

In the main building, or Nursery Cottage, which is occupied by the Rector and his family, is the children's sitting room, where they spend their evenings, and where family prayers are held. It contains quite a library, also a little conservatory where the children have their own plants. These are kept in little garden patches of their own in summer. The children are taught to weed, water and properly care for their plants, and are instructed how to save the seeds in autumn. The love of flowers is inculcated in the children. The porch of the school building was embellished with them, and boxes for their growth were improvised in the windows of the upper story, in which flowers and creepers were visible.

The grounds are being improved. Here and there a huge rock remains in its original position, giving an air of picturesqueness to the place, as well as a hint of its obdurate character and the difficulties that have been encountered in its subjugation. In the erection of the buildings, and in the clearing and cultivation of the land, the labor of the boys has been employed.

Seven fine milch cows are kept upon the place. The hillsides and garden furnish abundance of summer berries, which, partaken of with the milk, form a healthful diet for the children.

The discipline of the house is thus outlined by Rev. Mr. Gay: "We have no high walls, no bolts or bars. A boy comes to us from the city, village or the country lane. He is, perhaps, perfectly undisciplined and with many bad habits. He is introduced to a boy of his own age, who is to show him the place and inform him of the rules. He finds his days filled from early morning till bedtime with duties, studies and amusements. He is assured of the kind love of those who are over him. He finds himself trusted, his word believed. He is taught his part in our religious services and joins in the hearty sing-

ing of God's praise. The result is that the wild, undisciplined boy is transformed to a truthful, trusty, honest youth."

The following extract, from the last report of the Superintendent, affords a living picture of life in the Home:

"We would take the opportunity afforded by this report to introduce our friends to the interior of our house and show them the daily routine. At an early hour, 5 A. M. in summer, 6 A. M. in the shortest days of winter, the family are all astir. In the dormitories the children are taught on rising, first of all, to acknowledge the kind care which keeps them through the night. Immediately after the washing and dressing, each one has some duty to perform—some little work to do. Within the hour all are gathered in the reading room for instruction from God's Word. This instruction consists in the committal to memory of a text illustrative of the Church Catechism, in which the arrangement of texts by the late Bishop Doane, of New Jersey, is generally followed. This text learned in the morning is repeated at each meal before grace, and all the texts of the week are reviewed on Sundays. After the learning of the text, the ringing bell summons the adults, and all join in family prayers. From prayers all proceed to breakfast. After breakfast the girls attend to the housework, the boys to the garden, barn or other out-of-door work, from which, at nine o'clock, they are summoned to school. School duties, with the dinner hour and recesses for play, occupy the day till 3 P. M., when the girls engage in sewing, the boys in outside work till 4.30 P. M., then play till 5.30. Supper is followed by family prayers at 6. The children retire at 7, 8 or 9 o'clock P. M., according to age.

"The evening is spent in reading, sewing, study, music, games. The object in this daily routine is to fill each child's time with some employment which shall occupy his mind, be instructive to him, and mingle with his duties such pleasures as shall make his life what the Creator intended it to be, a cheerful and useful one. In allotting work, care is taken to change the departments once a month, so that each girl may become acquainted with all departments of housework; each boy learns to handle different tools and learns the different kinds of out-door work. In the barn are horses, cattle, pigs, etc. In his turn each boy learns to drive, to milk, to feed the cattle and pigs, to plough, to dig and plant the garden, to hoe and weed, and engages in all the various labors of the farm. On the river he learns to row and to fish. Shad fishing is an important consideration to our family, and the boys have been very successful with the nets. Besides fully supplying the family with abundance of shad, we sold for cash in May, 1874, shad to the amount of \$92.32. While erecting the buildings the boys attended the carpenters and masons, and with the young men did most of the painting of the houses both inside and out. They have been also

largely engaged in digging drains, in grading the grounds about the house, in clearing the ground of bushes and stones. Our friends who visit us from time to time notice continual improvements. Hill-sides are beginning to be cleared for cultivation. Stone is drawn out ready for the wall layers and builders, the roads are widened and leveled, the hill behind the house has had a large slice cut off, and cast into the hollow in front; banks have been sodded; trees, shrubs and vines planted. The larger portion of all which work, and much more, which, hidden in ditches and drains underground, is unseen, has been done by the boys. * * * * *

"The daily religious instruction has been already mentioned. Beyond this, there is the great teaching of the Church's year, in which the life of the Saviour is so wonderfully set before us. We have the full service of the Church on all Sundays and on the principal holy days, with daily service in Lent. The older children learn the Collect and Gospel for each Sunday, and have instruction upon them; also special instruction in classes on the Catechism, and preparatory to Confirmation and the Holy Communion. The religious instruction is, as it were, woven into the life of the family, not as a sanctimonious something to be put on at set times, but as a real part of the constant life, something so real and necessary as to belong to the daily life, so that the child is rather unconsciously influenced by it than absolutely taught. The result is, that all join heartily and of their own free will in the services, both at family prayer and in Church.

"For amusement, the children have all that which plenty of room in the country can afford. The situation of the house on the river bank affords many opportunities for aquatic sports. In the warm summer days there is bathing at high tide. Nearly all, even of the smaller boys soon become ready swimmers, and all who are large enough to handle an oar learn to row. Excursions on the river with the boats form a favorite summer amusement. A row of three to six or more miles is not thought too long a pull, while an occasional visit to West Point, ten miles away, or even farther up the river to Polipel's Island for a picnic, with the pull home by moonlight, affords the highest delight. Several times with crews of the best rowers have excursions been extended as far as the Kaatskills, camping out at night, and on one occasion were tide-waters passed and the boat pushed forty miles above Waterford on the Champlain canal. Such excursions afford the boys a knowledge of the river and the towns upon it, have sufficient of adventure about them to form a theme of conversation during the year, while the hopeful candidates for the next year's excursion find a continual spur in their hope for good conduct and industry. Said a gentleman who accompanied one of these expeditions to the Kaatskills: 'I think these boys are better than the average.

Here have we been for a week with these boys free from restraint, full of fun and frolic, and yet I have not heard an angry or improper word, or seen aught unbecoming a gentleman.'

"In the house and on the winter evenings the reading room, with its bright lights, long tables well covered with books, papers and games, which our friends have so kindly supplied, is a homelike and attractive place. The little girls have their separate sitting room in the 'bee hive,' where they can read or play with their dolls or sew."

In regard to the class of children received, the superintendent says: "We do not take children that are not needy; but if a child is really homeless, we take it. We have children here of all denominations."

A touching picture of one of the little waifs who found a home and kind friends in this institution shows for whom it has been established. "A poor little girl came to our doors—a sickly, deformed, dying child. 'Mother broke my back and didn't love me any more.' 'But my child the dear Saviour loves you.' 'No, He don't; there don't anybody love me.' She suffered much, but no word seemed to touch her. She shrank from all, even the little girls. She would eat alone, nor would she join in any childish sports. The good mother of the family alone seemed to gain any admission to her confidence. One day she was shown a picture of our Saviour weeping over Jerusalem. 'Oh, don't He look sweet,' she said. 'Yes, He is our dear Lord; He is the Good Shepherd; you are one of His little lambs; so He has brought you to this house; you know this is called the House of the Good Shepherd.' 'What, this His house?' 'Yes, my child, this is the House of the Good Shepherd, and He loves you, and has sent you here, where we all love you, and want you to be happy.' She sat and looked long at the picture, and for the first time seemed happy and at peace. An entire change came over her manner. The wildness went away. She desired the other children to be with her. She often said, 'don't send me away; I love to be here.' She wished always to be in at prayers to join in the sweet hymns and praises of the dear Saviour, and on the last day of her life here she was twice brought in her little chair to the family service. Then, in happy trust, she fell asleep."

It is contemplated building a church on the grounds, and some of the stones have, we were informed, been drawn for the purpose, and the corner-stone has been already laid.

The total expenditures for the year ending September 30, were \$6,502.11; of this, about \$2,000 were expended in liquidating indebtedness previously incurred. The total indebtedness was \$10,000, of which \$6,000 was upon the real estate.

It is to be regretted that, through lack of means, the benefits of the House cannot be further extended to take in more of the numerous applicants who sadly need its care. From the last report of the Secre-

tary of the Ladies' Association, Mrs. E. Butler, already referred to, it appears that there are "at present one hundred little ones homeless and destitute vainly appealing for admission, there being no funds in the treasury to support them. Can it be possible that any one knowing the needs of these poor little neglected children, will refuse a helping hand in this work which is carrying out spiritually and bodily the command of our Saviour: 'Feed My Lambs?'"

Standing upon this elevated and picturesque spot, with the Hudson and all its varied attractions spread out before us, a grand panorama of marvelous beauty, this house for homeless children, hallowed by unnumbered sacrifices, and by the noble lives devoted to its sacred work, seemed still more beautiful, and we lingered lovingly while tracing its every lineament upon our hearts.

THE DAY HOME.

Troy.

The Home is situated at the corner of Congress and Seventh streets. It occupies an old frame family mansion two stories in height, and has a large yard planted with shade trees. It was organized in 1858, and incorporated April 10th, 1861. Its objects are: "To provide a day home for such children as from the poverty or vice of their parents are not fit subjects for the ward schools; also to furnish a temporary home for a day and a night to destitute children who may require such temporary shelter."

The few facts relative to its early history are thus given: "As great numbers of vagabond children roamed about the city begging and idling, a necessity was felt by the ladies for their moral and social elevation. Funds for the purchase of the Day Home were solicited at the same time that the First Regiment from Troy was being fitted out for the late war, in April, 1862. In less than seven weeks \$7,000 were raised by the persistent efforts of two ladies. The institution is wholly managed by ladies, being the first one so directed that received a charter in this country. The number of inmates at its opening was one hundred and twenty-five.

At the date of visitation, September 11th, the institution was found to be under the charge of Mrs. Sabra Brainerd. Two teachers, and a woman to do kitchen work, made up, together with the Matron, the entire force of the institution.

The mothers of the children who receive its benefits are those who go out to work, and who, the Matron says, would leave their children

in the street to take care of themselves but for this institution. This lady further states: "Many of the parents are drinkers, and many of the children have mothers only. We pick up a great many street wanderers, put them to school, and try to train them up in the way in which they should go.

"We commence school at nine o'clock. We open the gates to admit children at half-past eight, and keep them till four o'clock. They get their dinner every day, and a good dinner it is.

"The school is opened with reading the scriptures, religious instruction and prayers, and then the ordinary English branches — reading, writing, the first principles of grammar and geography — are taught. Once a week one of the Ladies of the Board comes in to give religious instruction to the children. We have always had one hour in the week for music. We can see quite a change in the children after they have been here a while. On first coming they are always ragged and dirty. We get them to appear a little better. We make them clean, and give out clothing, such as shoes and wearing apparel generally, once a month. The number of shoes given out last winter was very large. The clothes are partly donated and partly purchased out of the funds of the institution."

In regard to the ages of the children the Matron says: "The children are of all ages, ranging from the earliest school age upward. A boy eleven years old came last winter, who did not know his letters. We have had some very bright children, and we now have some that are as apt as any children in the city. They look hard and rough when they come first to school. Some of them continue to look so, but there is generally a great change effected in them. Most of them are of German parentage."

The career of the children after leaving the institution, as a general rule, is encouraging to those carrying on the charity. "Some of our girls," the Matron says, "do very well, and nearly all the children do well out of the city."

The behavior of the children was said to be, on the whole, good. "One boy," says the Matron, "we were obliged to expel, but he came back begging to be received again, and he is now doing very well."

In regard to methods of discipline the Matron says: "We try every way we can think of. Sometimes one thing will do, sometimes another. All the dignity one can muster must be assumed at times. Sometimes they are very rude at table, especially when they first come in."

The house appeared to be kept in very good order. The school room had all needed requisites, including an organ.

The dining room was furnished with tables, covered with white enameled cloth. Crockery plates, tin cups and spoons were in use.

In the sitting room were portraits of the founders of the institu-

tion — Mrs. C. E. Dickerman, Mrs. Abigail Hagg and Mrs. C. R. S. Ingalls.

"On the holidays," the Matron says, "extra preparations are made to entertain the children. On Thanksgiving they have a dinner of turkey, chicken, pies, etc.; on Christmas, a tree laden with presents. We do not give them a grand dinner then; but at Easter we provide something out of the ordinary routine. Besides these, we have a summer picnic, when we invite the citizens to join us."

The number of children that shared the benefits of the institution during the year ending October 1, was two hundred and twenty-five; the average number was ninety. The total expenditures during the year were \$3,539.15. The value of its invested funds at date of October 1, was \$32,169.50.

The great number of poor children that have been benefited by the Home since its organization, by taking them from the streets and from the pernicious influences of low homes and putting them in the way of doing something for themselves, must make its value apparent to all thoughtful citizens.

ST. VINCENT'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Troy.

This asylum was organized and known as the St. Mary's Orphan Asylum, Troy, about the year 1850, by the Rev. Father Havermans. It retained this name till the date of its incorporation in 1863, when it assumed its present title. The institution has always been under the charge of the Sisters of Charity. It began with about twelve children, and has been steadily increasing till it has reached its present numbers.

On the date of visitation the asylum was in charge of Sister Sarah A. Baker, who has been connected with it from its very beginning. She is assisted by seven other Sisters of the Roman Catholic Order of the Sisters of Charity.

The present location of the asylum is on the corner of Washington and Fifth streets, in the building formerly occupied by the Troy Hospital. The age of the building and its proximity to the New York Central Railroad render it very undesirable for an orphan asylum. The smoke and sparks from the engines are constantly blown over into the yard, rendering both persons and property unsafe. The Sisters are fully alive to these drawbacks, but, being incumbered with a heavy debt, they are unable to make a change. "We are," says the Sister, "cramped for accommodations. I cannot take in more than one hun-

dred and thirty children, and will have to make room for others by placing some out.

"Children are received between the ages of three and nine years, and when suitable places can be obtained for them they are bound out. They come mostly from the city. The city allows us \$1.50, and the county \$2, a week for the support of their charges. But we get a great many for whom we receive nothing. There are now in the house over twenty-two that we have to support entirely ourselves."

The utter neglect from which some of the children have suffered is thus described in the words of the Sister: "They frequently come in a very neglected condition. I have had them arrive in so dreadful a state that I was obliged to poultice their heads in order to get them clean."

The girls receive a plain English education, and are taught to wash, iron, sew, cook and make bread. "We make," says the Sister, "all our own clothes, and have a dressmaker in the house to teach dress-making to the larger girls."

A school is held on the premises. The children are taught vocal music. The class room for little girls and the class room for larger girls are furnished with patent desks and seats, and slate slabs in the walls.

The dormitories were very clean and are furnished with single iron bedsteads. Straw beds and feather pillows are used. Sisters sleep in each room with the girls.

Two were on the sick list in the infirmary, which is furnished with eleven wooden bedsteads, and a Sister's bed.

The Sister says: "We go to a great deal of trouble to preserve the health of the children. It is all the poor children have. Once a week we take them to a hill near here for exercise."

The wardrobes of the children were well supplied. The Sister remarks: "Each girl has seven dresses. Two for everyday wear in summer of calico; two calico suits for Sunday; a light suit to go out in; one suit for winter of Rob Roy flannel; another of green gingham for fall and spring. We buy knit stuff by the yard, and make stockings out of it for the children."

The tables in the dining-room were covered with white enameled cloth. The children sit on benches and use crockery plates, knives and forks, and tin cups. Off from the dining room is the wash room containing a long trough and two bath tubs. The girls wash in running water. The bath tubs were high from the ground to enable the two Sisters who have charge to better endure the fatigue of bathing the children. Both hot and cold water are on supply.

The laundry is separate from the main building, and the ironing is done in the same department.

In regard to the results of the work the Sister spoke as follows: "The children turn out well. Some of them live in the first families in Troy. The money the children earn after they leave I save for them, and even buy them their clothes. Many of them are young and foolish, and if I did not they would spend it all. Some save a good deal. For instance, I had a poor woman's children with me for a long time. Her husband had left her. She went to work, and of her own accord brought her money regularly to me, and in four years' time she had laid up \$500 for her children. Many of the girls marry and do well."

The number of children in the institution October 1, 1875, was one hundred and thirty-three. Of these, nineteen were orphans, ninety-one were half-orphans, and twenty-three had both parents living. Fifty were of native parents and eighty-three of foreign. Five were partially supported by friends, nineteen wholly by the institution, and one hundred and nine by public authorities. The number received during the year was sixty; the total number discharged thirty-five. Of the latter eight were placed out by adoption, and six by indenture, eleven were returned to parents or guardians, nine were otherwise discharged, and one died. The average number during the year was one hundred and twenty-eight.

The total expenditures for the year were \$15,327.60. Of this sum \$1,752.50 was paid out for indebtedness upon the real estate, and about \$1,000 for buildings and improvements. The total indebtedness was \$24,605.78.

The whole number of girls that have shared the benefits of the institution since its organization is nine hundred and sixty-eight.

The Sister in charge felt the great disadvantage of their present location. In alluding to it, she said: "It is a house difficult to keep clean on account of the smoke from the cars, and from the gas house. The place is badly situated. The noise of freight and passenger trains is very trying, and the sparks from the engines are very dangerous."

The work of this asylum has been, and is now impeded by financial embarrassments. Notwithstanding the efforts of the Sisters to make the most of existing resources, its field of operation has been abridged. The large number of poor girls who have, through its beneficence, been elevated and helped into good homes, and the numerous applicants to whom admission had of necessity to be refused, show that it not only deserves mention among the worthy charities of Troy, but that it should receive hearty encouragement and support from the benevolent.

TROY CATHOLIC MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Troy.

This institution was organized in 1850, and incorporated under the general law January 5, 1864. Its history is stated to be as follows: "In 1850, Troy had a population of thirty-five thousand, a good proportion of whom were Catholics. There being no institution in the place where Catholic orphan children might be cared for, in accordance with the faith of their church, the Catholics, under the energetic lead of the Rev. Peter Havermans, pastor of St. Mary's church, founded the Asylum. In 1863, the Christian Brothers were called upon to take charge and become the responsible managers, their labors from the beginning having been confined to the care and education of the few children it was able to provide for. From a commencement of three, it kept steadily increasing till its legal organization, when the number reached one hundred and fifty-three, and during the war it had about one hundred and eighty inmates. The exact number cannot be given, as the books have been destroyed by fire. In May, 1866, the old Asylum, a frame building, was burned down, leaving the orphans in utter destitution, and for a time this sad event dispersed them to such places of shelter as could be found among our charitable people. Shortly after, a large shed, which had been used as a barrack for the Union soldiers, was purchased, and made as available as possible for a temporary Asylum. Only those who witnessed the condition of the institution, in these days of trial, can tell the difficulties that had to be overcome and the hardships endured. Shortly after the destruction of the old Asylum, a Board of Trustees was organized, to take measures for the erection of a new building. A proper site having been secured, the new edifice was commenced, and was prosecuted with energy till brought to its present state. Attached to the institution is a farm of fourteen and a quarter acres of land, four acres of which have been generously donated by Rev. P. Havermans."

The new building is of brick, four stories in height, and has a capacity for four hundred children. It is situated on the corner of Hanover and Bedford streets, on an elevated site. The visitation was made on the 13th of September, when the institution contained one hundred and forty-six inmates, ranging from three to seven years old.

A Board of seven trustees control the finances of the Asylum, and its immediate charge is committed to seven Christian Brothers, with Brother Candidus Burke at their head. The employes consist of a woman to take care of the little children, a cook, and a janitor, having a general oversight of the house. The work of the seven Brothers is divided as follows: "Brother Candidus, the Director, has charge of the house and its business affairs; two Brothers are teachers; one, called

the Prefect, has supervision of the boys after school hours; another has charge of the linen and clothing department; one Brother superintends the dining room and kitchen, and the seventh superintends the general cleanliness of the house."

The building is spacious, with high ceilings and large windows hung with cords, weights and pulleys. It is lighted with gas and heated by stoves. "Formerly," we were told, "it was heated by furnaces, but these were found unsuitable, and, besides, the roots being stored in the basement, they were liable to decay when furnaces were used, and the smell was carried throughout the house." But since they have used stoves, the basement is kept cool, and it is said the inmates are not now thus inconvenienced.

The building is supplied with city water, and ventilated by flues in the walls.

Most of the children, we were informed, come from the county or city, the former paying \$2.00 a week each for their support, and the latter, \$1.50. "They remain till we can place them out. We send them either with farmers or with private families. Some of them are put to learn trades, but we do not bind them out.

"In the disciplining of the children we use encouragements, but, when necessary, have recourse to corporal punishment, which is administered on the hands."

A school is conducted on the premises, taught by the Brothers, but under the Department of Public Instruction. A teacher from the public school comes once a week to instruct the children in vocal music, when a piano belonging to the institution is brought into requisition for accompaniments.

In the infirmary was a little infant ill with measles. Two other little children, under five years of age, were on the sick-list. The nurse's room adjoins the infirmary. "We had," says the Brother, "four deaths during the past year. One was from consumption, another from brain fever, and two died from cholera morbus. One of these was six years old, and another was a little German boy, ten years of age."

The dormitories extend the entire length of the building, and are furnished with single iron and wooden bedsteads. The beds are of straw or husks. A Brother sleeps in each room.

The tables in the dining room are made of white wood, oiled. Benches are used for seats. Tin plates, cups, knives, forks and spoons are used at table. A dais is at the end of the room, on which the tables of the Brothers are placed. They eat at the same time with the boys.

The lavatory is fitted up with troughs on three sides, and so arranged that the boys can wash in running water. The washing of

clothes, etc., is done in a separate building. The boys wash their own shirts.

A shoe factory is carried on in the basement, in which sixteen boys and three men were at work. The room contained a large machine for sewing uppers, another for sewing on soles, also a splitting machine, an eyelet machine, and a set of dies for making women's, children's and misses' shoes. Most of the boys employed, it is said, have been four or five years in the house. "The intention is to send them out qualified to support themselves by means of a trade."

The number of children in the Asylum Oct. 1, who were orphans, was fifteen; half-orphans, one hundred and twenty; who had both parents living, twenty-four. Thirteen were of native parents. Of one hundred and forty-six, the nativity of the parents was unascertained. Eighteen were partially supported by parents or friends, four wholly by the institution and one hundred and seven by cities or counties. The number received during the year was ninety-eight; total number discharged, sixty-nine. Of the latter fifty-six were returned to parents or guardians; nine were placed out on trial with a view to indenture, and four died. The average number during the year was one hundred and thirty-eight.

The total amount of expenditures for the year ending September 30, was \$16,798.26. The total indebtedness was \$11,291.06.

The whole number of boys that have shared the benefits of the institution since its organization is about fourteen hundred.

The Asylum is undoubtedly accomplishing a great amount of good and should be well sustained. The Brothers are entitled to much credit in their self-denying and arduous labors. It is thought, however, that if it were possible to secure the aid of the Sisters in the management of the domestic affairs of the household greater economy and neatness might be attained.

THE TROY ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Troy.

Occupies an elevated site at 294 Eighth street, overlooking the city. A neatly trimmed grass plot extends in front of the building, and flowers embellish its grounds. The edifice is of brick, four stories high with a projecting porch in front and free stone moldings and cornices. The Asylum was established in 1833, and incorporated by the Legislature April 10, 1835. The present edifice building was erected in 1862.

The following scrap of its history has been furnished:

"The object of the founders of the institution was at first to provide for and relieve orphan children alone, but at last the Trustees modified their views, and the exclusive objects of the Association now are to rescue all destitute and orphan children from wretchedness and ignorance and vicious influences; provide for them a comfortable habitation during the period of infancy and early childhood; furnish them with clean and comfortable clothing, and plain but wholesome diet; instruct them in the useful branches of a common education, and form them to habits of industry; and when sufficiently instructed and deemed capable of earning their livelihood, to bind them as apprentices to persons of fair character, and on terms calculated to promote their future welfare.

"Prominent among its founders were the Harts, Merrills, Lanes, Tibbits, Paynes, McCoans, Starbucks, Lockwoods, Vails, Buells, and other families of Troy. Mrs. Richard P. Hart of Troy gave \$10,000 toward erecting the present building, the citizens of Troy furnishing the balance, and the school room at the south-east end of the main building was erected by the wife of Hon. George Vail, at a cost of \$3,000."

In the hall, observable on entering, are two memorial tablets; one commemorating the gift of Mrs. Richard P. Hart and the contributions of the citizens of Troy toward the erection of the present edifice after the destruction of the former one by fire on the 10th of May, 1862. The other was in memory of Nathaniel Starbuck, which the Trustees, out of affectionate regard for his memory, have erected.

The finances of the institution are controlled by a Board of Trustees—gentlemen; but its domestic and internal concerns are under the direction of an association of lady managers.

The building is lighted by gas, heated by furnaces and supplied with city water.

The Asylum is in the immediate charge of a Matron. The subordinate force consists of one nurse, two chambermaids, three laundresses, two seamstresses, two cooks and a janitor. It is not customary to employ as domestics mothers having children who are inmates of the Asylum. The Matron, Mrs. M. A. Greenman, says on this point: "We do not engage any such now. We found their children always wanted to be with them, and had the idea that they must obey none of the rules that were made, like the other children."

The play-room for little girls is fitted up with compartments for play-things, in which were many little toys. The walls were illuminated with engravings suitable for children, for which the Matron had improvised borders of blue paper, with a view to teaching the children how to make trifles look pretty with little expense.

The boys' play-room is well adapted to its uses, and is so fin-

ished with wainscoting that they are able to amuse themselves in full freedom with marbles, balls or tops, without injuring the room.

Ample provision is made for the comfort of the little inmates. The dormitories are airy; the beds furnished with abundance of clothes, suited to the varying seasons. Plain but nutritious food is supplied.

The bath-rooms, in the basement, for both boys and girls, are fitted up similarly and flagged, but covered with wooden racks, to prevent the feet of the children coming in contact with the cold stone. They wash, we were informed, in running water, three or four times a day. Care is taken to separate healthy from unhealthy children, and where there are any suffering with cutaneous eruptions they are bathed by themselves. A care-taker has charge of the girls, and the janitor of the boys.

The school occupies two rooms, one for the little children furnished with the usual infant school gallery, and brightened with picture cards, another with an organ for the larger inmates. The boys and girls sit at opposite sides of the room, facing each other, and the teacher's desk is on a dais between the two.

The floor is varnished, and the apartment neatly kept. The children sang with much spirit: "Hold the Fort." The school is, we were informed, under the Department of Public Instruction, which supplies the teacher. On Sunday a Sabbath-school is held here, the teachers being furnished by the various churches in the city. The school-room opens out on a long piazza extending the entire length of the main building.

Both boys and girls have separate play-grounds with swings. These are inclosed by a substantial brick wall, and are paved with stone flagging, which, the Matron says, "is a great detriment to shoe leather."

The laundry is outside and separate from the main building. The money to build it was donated by Mr. Lockwood. A portion of the rain water is saved, but the capacity of the tanks is not sufficient for the needs of the institution. The laundry is supplied from a spring.

In regard to industries, Mrs. Greenman remarks: "The girls are taught to sew and the boys to knit. Every Wednesday afternoon is devoted to this work. The girls are taught to do housework, helping alternately with the washing. We try to teach them to be useful and to cultivate habits of neatness.

"I do not allow the children to think they can go around with their shoestrings hanging in a slack manner. I tell them that the habits they form now will stick to them through life, and that cleanliness prevents sickness."

Ample provision is made for the inmates in the way of dress. Mrs. Greenman says: "The girls have one Sunday and two week-day suits. In summer they are supplied with straw hats and gray cloth sacques.

Their winter suits are uniform; Scotch plaid, worsted goods, felt hats, blue cloaks of beaver cloth, brightened with steel buttons. Skirts of blue flannel and under-skirts made of knitted goods are also worn. The boys in winter wear suits of dark gray woolen cloth."

The various holidays are duly observed: Christmas, Thanksgiving, and the Fourth of July. "We try," Mrs. Greenman says, "to make the children feel that they are in a home while with us, and not in a prison."

The infirmary was without an occupant. The Matron says: "We had no deaths during the past year. We have not had a death since two years ago last May. No children are sick. We do not intend to have any if we can possibly keep them well. Our method is, when any thing is the matter, to attend to them promptly. Regarding the rules for the admission of children, the Matron says: "Children are brought here, and a committee investigate the matter. Some are taken for a number of weeks; others are taken permanently. Those who have friends able to pay for their board are charged \$1.50 a week. This committee determines who is to be received, and on what conditions. We are paid \$1.50 a week from the city and \$2 from the county. Parents or relatives who are able, are charged the same as the city. A few are quite reliable, and pay in advance; others have not paid for years."

The following is the method for disposing of the children: A child is placed out for three months on trial, on the supposition that the party appears, after a reasonable amount of investigation, to be suitable. If the child is not comfortable, or does not suit, it is brought home, and another place for it is procured. "We have had usually," Mrs. Greenman says, "very good fortune with our children. Some of them have married and are doing well, and have nice homes of their own. We do not take children under three years, nor over ten, and we put them out from twelve to fourteen. Those that are given to us permanently we keep till they are of the latter age. In some instances we keep them longer. Others we put out when we can get a chance. If a person comes who is willing to adopt a child, we let him have one, but such cases are very rare. A great many of the children are taken back by their friends."

On being asked what means were taken to look after children placed out, she said: "We have always had a visiting committee to look after them. This committee, it is believed, has been very active in tracing out where children have been ill-treated and bringing them back. As a general thing our children have remained where they have been placed."

As bearing upon what has been accomplished by these earnest work-

ers, who have been so long and zealously engaged in this charity, we quote from the forty-first annual report of the society :

"As the result of their labors, over one thousand children of the class for whom it was established have found a home, with all the comforts and privileges of a home, in this asylum. Many of them have become respected and useful citizens. Some have attained positions of influence, and are blessed with means which enable them, in turn, to act the part of benefactors to those who are their successors in the enjoyment of the benefits conferred by the institution which nourished and cherished them. No labored argument is needed to prove that the orphan asylum is one of the most valuable and important of the institutions which have been reared by enlightened and liberal Christian charity."

From a late report of the secretary of the Ladies' Auxiliary Society, Mrs. E. C. S. Knox, it is inferred that the cordial co-operation of the benevolent is now necessary to carry on the work with efficiency. Her words are :

"While the coming year is likely to be one of increased demand upon all who have any thing to give, it will also be one of many and increased applications here, and while we are endeavoring to use what we have to the best possible advantage, and cut down every unnecessary expense, yet our expenses must still be very heavy. One hundred children cannot be fed and warmed and clothed and nursed on any small sum. Those who provide for small families will readily realize this. We will not believe that our citizens are not ready and willing to support this orphan asylum ; but it is an old story, and like all old stories, becomes tedious at times. The asylum is old, but the children are young, and a fresh reinforcement always at hand ; and the Master's test is still the same : ' Lovest thou me ? Feed my lambs. '

The number of children received into the institution since its organization is fourteen hundred and eighty-seven. The number received during the past year was sixty-five ; the number discharged, forty-eight. Of the latter, seventeen were placed out by indenture, thirty-one returned to parents or guardians. There remained in the institution, October 1, one hundred and five children. Nineteen were orphans, seventy-six half-orphans and ten had both parents living. Sixty were of native, and forty-five of foreign, parentage. Nineteen were partially supported by friends, sixty-eight by counties or towns, and eighteen wholly by the institution.

The total expenditure for the year ending October 30, was \$12,287.67. The amount of its indebtedness was \$4,000, and the value of its invested funds was \$32,500.

The great sacrifices that have been made in times past by the eminent citizens and friends who have been its patrons, and the large

number of destitute and homeless children to whom the asylum has been a stepping-stone to independence and respectability must commend the work to the liberal support of the community in which it is located.

THE HOUSE OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD,

Utica,

Occupies a healthy situation on elevated ground, in the eastern part of the city, about two miles from the railroad depot.

It was organized through the benevolent efforts of a number of Christian ladies of Utica, in 1872, and incorporated by act of the Legislature, February 8, of the same year. Its property is under the control of a Board of eleven Trustees, composed of gentlemen, who act as an Advisory Committee to the Board of Lady Managers who direct its charitable work and manage its domestic affairs. The house is under the immediate charge of a Matron. A school teacher, two nurses, a cook and a laundress are also employed.

The objects of the society are stated to be "the permanent care of infirm children, and the temporary care of friendless, neglected or destitute children." In the beginning a building for temporary use was secured, and a number of helpless children were soon receiving the kind attentions of the ladies interested. While this work was going on, subscriptions were solicited with a view to the erection of a building for the purposes of the asylum. A handsome sum was at length subscribed to carry out this purpose by the benevolent. The site referred to was secured, embracing an area of two hundred by one hundred and twenty feet. Upon this an attractive building has been erected, seemingly well-fitted to the purposes for which it was designed. The basement is used for kitchen and other purposes. The first floor is divided into apartments for the school and managers' reception rooms, closets, clothes and bath-rooms. On the second floor are dormitories, nursery room for boys and girls, apartments for nurses, clothes rooms, etc. The attic is unfinished, and will enlarge the accommodations of the house when completed. A beautiful view of the scenery around Utica may be obtained from the tower and balconies on the north side of the house. On the 9th of April, 1875, the children were removed from the temporary building to this pleasant home, and the house was formally opened with interesting ceremonies the following June.

From the Matron in charge of the institution, Miss Mary McCune, the following information was obtained in answer to inquiries made

on the occasion of a brief visitation, September 14th: "There were thirty-four children in the house, about equally divided as to sex. The youngest was a little girl about four months old; the youngest boy was about two years old. No females over fourteen years of age are admitted into the asylum except in the cases of mothers with infant children. In case of children being received younger than two years, it is customary to place them out in families until they have been weaned, the asylum paying for their maintenance. About eighteen children of the house, and seventeen from outside attend the school, where they receive instruction in spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic and geography.

The work being done here may be best illustrated by quoting the following language from the report of the Secretary, Miss Gertrude H. Cox, just issued:

"Our work has been from the beginning one of faith, and we have had every encouragement 'to increase that faith in us evermore,' for there has ever been found to aid us kind hearts and open purses. The small tenement house we rented until the completion of the new building, was filled to overflowing with the homeless children who looked to us for shelter, and we were obliged to refuse admittance to many, simply for want of room; a fact which seems to point conclusively to the great necessity for, and worthiness of, our charity. The cases of misery and destitution which we have been able in a measure to alleviate, are numerous and painful, and some instances of suffering and starvation among little children are touching with the pathos of truth.

"One cold autumn evening a little girl came to the house. The Matron asked her what she wanted. She looked up timidly and said: 'Oh! I only want to find the Good Shepherd's Home, and whether they would please let me come in.' She had slept the night before on the back steps of a kitchen, and had nothing to eat all the day, being locked out of doors by her drunken mother. She was received, fed, washed and cared for, her ragged covering exchanged for clean garments; and when she saw the little children kneel to say their evening prayers, she burst into tears, and could hardly believe she was to be numbered with them, and enjoy the comfort of a nice bed, having slept since she could remember 'on the floor in the corner.' Again, a child was brought to the house, found under a canal bridge, where it had cried itself to sleep, while hiding away in fear of its intoxicated parents. In another instance, a child was following its mother, who was being led by a police officer to the station house, the father being already in State prison. The child was observed by a friend, who knew something of her misery, and a home was provided for her in 'The House of the Good Shepherd,' where she was found willing, obedient and grateful for the kindness. Other children have been sheltered who bore evi-

dent marks of brutal treatment on their poor, shivering bodies and limbs. Often it is unsafe to give them at once enough to satisfy their hungry cravings. Little ones, who have stayed long enough to become attached to the inmates, and are removed, beg to come back again ; and in cases where they have returned, show their delight in ways not to be misunderstood. One little girl said, upon asking admission for the second time, 'This is the only good place I was ever in, and the only place where I ever learned any thing good.'

"Glancing back over the last two years, it seems truly wonderful how much has been accomplished. Beginning with absolutely nothing, save an abiding faith in the everlasting mercy of our Heavenly Father, but with and in that faith beginning, we have, through His blessing, been able to rescue nearly one hundred poor little starvelings from sore distress and destitution — some of them almost from the borders of death itself. Beginning with a small and inconvenient tenement rented for the occasion, we have within this short time erected and nearly paid for a beautiful and durable 'Home,' an ornament in itself and a perpetual monument to the Christian spirit of the noble men and women who have contributed their labor and substance to the undertaking."

The total expenditures of the institution during the past year were \$12,102.92. Of this sum, \$11,067.66 was expended for buildings and improvements. Its indebtedness on October 1, 1875, was \$2,500. It has no invested funds.

It must be stated with regret that the institution is incumbered with a debt of \$4,000. It is believed, however, that the zeal shown by the Christian ladies engaged in this work will be fully rewarded by a generous support. This attempt to rescue from degradation a class who have the fewest friends, and who, if neglected, will inevitably swell the pauper and criminal ranks which burden society, cannot be too highly commended

ST. JOHN'S FEMALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Utica.

Linking together the past and the present of this noble charity, there still remains the simple building in which it commenced forty years ago. To this unpretending structure additions have been made from time to time, till the Asylum now stands forth in the comely proportions in which we found it, on the day of visitation. The growth of this charity, like that of many others of its kind, has called for the exercise of such unflinching perseverance, and for the

practice of such rigorous self-denial, as only those who firmly believed in the worthiness and ultimate success of their work could endure. We give a few gleanings from the history furnished by those long familiar with its labors.

"Central New York, in 1834, afforded no sufficient protection to orphan children, whose number was rapidly increasing. Impelled by motives of wise philanthropy, two benevolent citizens of Utica,* brothers, made application to the Mother House of the Sisters of Charity, at Emmitsburgh, Md., for the aid of the Sisters, in opening and conducting a Roman Catholic Orphan Asylum and Day School at Utica. At this time the only means of conveyance between Albany and Utica was by stage or the canal, and the city and surrounding country, as compared with its present condition, was undeveloped. The Asylum was opened in a plain dwelling house, the day school being conducted in an adjoining building, which has been replaced by the large brick Asylum edifice. The day school was principally a charity school. At one time it averaged an attendance of five hundred pupils.

"The early days of the institution were dark and gloomy, often without sixpence in the house, and sixteen or twenty persons to support. Through the mercy of God and the charity of the Devereux family, the zealous labors of the Sisterhood — prominent among which have ever stood forth the zeal and energy of Sister Perpetua — the institution struggled on until March 28, 1849. Since that time it has received aid from the State, and has been liberally supported by contributions from the citizens of Utica. Thousands of destitute females from the tenderest years to eighteen or twenty have been protected within its walls, and received a moral, religious and industrial training which fitted them for respectable positions in society.

"In proof of the good that has been and is constantly being done by this institution, we have but to refer to the generations that have passed through it. There are highly respectable mothers of families, teachers in our district schools, governesses in excellent families, who are esteemed no less for their educational qualifications than for their modest and lady-like deportment, sales and trades-women, domestics of every description, each admirable in her station, not only here in Utica and its vicinity, but also in the east, the south and far west, where they have settled advantageously, and it is not an unfrequent occurrence to have a child brought from those distant parts, whose mother's dying request was to have her little one placed in the care of her own early guardians, in old St. John's."

The location of the Asylum is No. 60 John street.

* J. C. & N. Devereux.

The buildings are of brick, three stories high, exclusive of basement. The school-house, employed principally for a charity week-day school, covers an area of about three hundred and fifty square feet. A yard, one hundred and twenty feet wide, connects the Asylum with the school-house. Two covered porches extend the entire length of the rear of the Asylum building.

On the date of visitation, September 14th, the Asylum was in charge of Sister Angelica, a lady who had been engaged in the care and instruction of children for about twenty-eight years, the last seven of which were spent in Utica. Nine other Sisters of charity were associated with her in the present work.

This Sister informed us that the average number of children in the Asylum during the past year had been ninety-seven, sometimes running up as high as one hundred and twenty. The number of inmates received into the institution since its foundation is about three thousand.

"We can accommodate," says Sister Angelica, "two hundred children. We receive them from three years upwards. Sometimes they stay with us only as long as their guardians allow them. Some we place in families, others on leaving go to the Industrial School. We watch over them when they are gone and encourage them to communicate with us. Sometimes we put ourselves to a great deal of trouble and expense in looking after them. We try to provide for the little ones as best we can and trust in Divine Providence that He will not let them suffer for want of any thing. We aim to give them a plain English education, embracing reading, writing, arithmetic and grammar. Those who have superior talent are encouraged to cultivate it. Five hours a day are devoted to secular instruction. But few remain long enough to get a really good education. The parents take them away and endeavor to put them at work. We do not feel quite safe in letting them go till they are fifteen years old. We cultivate whatever talent they have. Some have one kind, some another. If for fancy work, we try to cultivate that. We have some who do not seem to have much talent for any thing. Still we strive to teach them how to work, and all who are old enough to learn, are taught how to use the sewing-machine."

The industrial feature of this institution is very marked, and comprises all kinds of house-work, plain and ornamental sewing, tapestry work, and dressmaking. In reference to this, Sister Angelica remarks, "The girls are taught all branches of domestic economy. Each one has a branch of work allotted her, which she must pursue till she gives satisfaction." Changes are made every two months in the different departments of the house. "Our girls bake nicely, and make very good hop-yeast bread. We try, in our discipline, to be very gentle

with them. We never use the switch. We think, in most cases, it does a great injury, as it arouses the animal nature. We reward our children for good conduct by credit marks, and by taking them out frequently."

The children seemed contented, and, we were told, became very much attached to the Sisters. The following incident, related to us by the Sister, shows what is considered the "summum bonum" of happiness by some of these little ones: "Two little girls came here last week, and appeared to be very home-sick. They were crying for their mother. Another little girl went to comfort them, and putting her arms around their necks said, 'Never mind, we have such a happy time here. Why we go out to walk, and even go to funerals!'"

"The very little ones," the Sister says, "take a nap every afternoon, and after that have bread and molasses, which they think very nice." The children were clean, their hair was combed back and tied up with neat ribbons. Among the larger girls we noticed a graduate of the Blind Institution of New York, who seemed to be quite a favorite. We were entertained by the children singing in excellent time "Sweet Heart of Jesus."

The dormitories of the asylum are well lighted apartments, with inside blinds upon the windows. The bedsteads are single, made of wood, in the French pattern, and all the furniture is varnished, showing the natural color of the wood. These rooms presented a very cheerful appearance. Two Sisters sleep in each. The Sister's preferences are for wooden bedsteads. She says: "I like the wooden bedsteads decidedly the best. Some think that iron bedsteads will not harbor vermin. This is a mistake. I am sure we have not a bed-bug in the house. We saturate our bedsteads with poison in the spring, and we brush them carefully every morning." Hair mattresses and feather pillows were on all the beds. The latter were made up with great neatness, and covered with snow-white counterpanes.

The infirmary is a pleasant room, but had no inmates. One death had occurred during the past year. In regard to the health of the inmates, the Sister remarks: "The children's health is uniformly good. We have had but three deaths within eighteen or twenty years. We attribute this great blessing, in a measure, to the free use of sulphur water, a fine spring of which is within the house, and of which the children are extremely fond. Good health being the only heritage of these poor children, every effort is made to preserve it to them. This is done by strict attention to cleanliness, diet, exercise and clothing."

In the sewing-room were two sewing machines. Sister Angelica says of this department: "We have a class in sewing of an hour's duration every day. Some of the girls have two hours' sewing. This depends altogether upon how they get along with their studies. Little

girls are engaged on simple work, and the larger ones are taught to make coats and other garments. The children make every thing they wear."

In the sitting room were hung some creditable specimens of needle-work. One was an embroidered picture of "Christ turning the water into wine." This was worked by the girls.

The clothes-room was fitted up with extensive wardrobes, each child having a compartment. The supply of winter and summer clothing was ample. Each child had three changes of dresses for summer, and two of woolen for winter, besides a comfortable sacque.

The lavatory presented an appearance of order and neatness, characteristic of the rest of the house. A sink extends along three sides of this room, over which the children's basins, all brightly scoured, were hung. Above these are little shelves for the combs and brushes. In another part of the room the towels were hung. Each child has her own towel, brush, comb, and basin, and a place for them. Each of these articles was found in its place.

The dining room was supplied with chairs. The tables were spread with neat white table cloths, and well furnished. The larger girls occupied one table; the next in size, another; while the youngest children, who go by the pet name of "frogs," sit by themselves in little baby chairs.

The bakery contained a large brick oven capable of baking, at one time, the loaves made from a barrel of flour. The oven comes into very happy use for another purpose. Sister Angelica says of this feature of the establishment: "The children are very fond of baked potatoes. We now and then throw in a quantity of these and have them served up for supper.

The milk cellar and store rooms were also visited and each bore evidence of superior housekeeping.

The laundry was in a wing extending at right angles to the main building.

The Asylum possessed also a comfortable play-room for the children, suitable school-rooms, and a neat chapel capable of seating one hundred.

The house is heated by three furnaces, and when necessary, stoves are also used. The facilities for bathing are ample, the bath-rooms being supplied with both hot and cold water. Gas is burned throughout the building. The drainage was said to be good.

The work of this institution is divided into different departments, one or more Sisters having charge of each, and Sister Angelica presiding over the whole. Several were engaged in the school-rooms. One had charge of the dormitories and lavatory; one, the sewing room and clothes room; others, the kitchen and dining room; still others,

the laundry. By this means every part of the work is thoroughly supervised by competent persons, and the whole maintained in complete order and cleanliness. By this means also, the children old enough to do any work are well instructed in household labor, and, by the changes of work every two months, in all its varieties. Besides, the Sisters being distributed over the house and mingling with the little bands of children give the house a home-like and family character.

In a small space in the yard of the institution, secluded by an iron railing, is a little piece of ground consecrated by the burial of two of the Sisters, Sister Mary Carr and Sister Mary Angela, who died while serving this deserving charity. In the same space stands a simple block surmounted by a cross, and bearing the following inscription:

"Pray for the soul of John C. Devereux, who died December 11, 1848, founder of this Asylum. He distributed to the poor, he fed these Thy little ones. O Lord, may he receive Thy everlasting benediction!"

The number of children received during the past year was twenty-eight, and the number discharged thirty-one. Of the latter, five were placed out by adoption, thirteen returned to parents or guardians, one was transferred to another institution, and twelve were otherwise discharged. There remained in the Asylum October 1, 1875, seventy-one orphans, thirty-one half-orphans, and seven children having both parents living. Eight were of native, and one hundred and one of foreign parentage. Fifteen were partially supported by friends, twenty-eight by counties, and sixty-six wholly by the institution.

The total amount expended during the year was \$7,547.21. The value of its personal estate is estimated at \$30,000, and its indebtedness is set down at \$2,000.

The visit to this long-established charity was eminently satisfactory in view of the refining and elevating influences to which the children appeared to be subjected, and the home-like character of the institution. It would seem that the characters of girls brought under the influences that surround them here must insensibly be molded into those forms of grace and dignity which constitute the best and most endearing endowment in woman.

ST. VINCENT'S MALE ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Utica.

The eligible situation of this Asylum, as well as its imposing architectural design, renders it a conspicuous feature of the city of Utica. The edifice, a spacious brick structure, two-stories high, with a base-

ment and mansard attic, is located on Rutger street nearly a mile from the depot, the grounds surrounding it containing five acres of valuable land. The purchase of land was made in 1867, and the corner-stone of the building now in use was laid the same year. The Asylum building is one hundred and fifty feet in length, and its wings are seventy feet in depth. It is wainscoted throughout with chestnut for a space of about four feet from the floor. The windows are large and arranged in keeping with modern improvements. Gas is used for lights, and the supply of water coming from the city is carried to all the floors. Stoves were in use at the time of visitation, but it is intended to put in furnaces. It has a capacity to accommodate one hundred and fifty inmates.

The financial affairs of the institution are controlled by a board of trustees, but the immediate charge and working is assumed by the Roman Catholic Order of Christian Brothers, of whom Brother Jeremiah De Mers is superintendent. The paid force employed consists of a man for out-door work, and a woman in kitchen service.

The garden is large, and yields a good supply of vegetables. Here, in the summer months, when not in school, the boys work, and the necessity of hiring outside help is thus, to a certain extent, obviated.

The dormitories are large, and contain single iron bedsteads. Two Brothers sleep in each of the dormitories with the boys. The Brothers also eat in the boys' refectory, and at the same time, but sit at a separate table, placed on a dais at one end of the room.

The Sunday-school room is furnished with an organ. The chapel has high ceilings and bay windows.

On the day of visitation, September 14th, the number of inmates was fifty-five. Their ages ranged from four to fourteen years.

The institution was incorporated April 21, 1862. An amendment of its charter, made by the Legislature last winter, changed its functions to that of a protectory. It is now suffering from financial embarrassments, which impair its usefulness. If these were removed, the Brothers think its work would be greatly extended in its new field. It has already accomplished large results, through the benevolence of its founders, and the Christian Brothers, who have borne the labor of its management. Five hundred and fifty-two boys have been received in the institution and shared its benefits since its organization. The number of boys received during the year ending September 30, 1875, was twenty-six, the number discharged twenty-five. Of the latter, one was placed out by adoption, fifteen were returned to parents or guardians, four placed out in families, and four returned to counties, and one died. The average number in the institution during the year was forty-four. The number on the 1st of October who were orphans was seventeen, half-orphans twenty-four, who had both parents

living, four. The number who were of native parentage was thirty-one, and of foreign parentage, fourteen. Twelve were partially supported by parents or friends, sixteen by counties, towns or cities, and seventeen wholly by the institution.

The total expenditures during the year ending September 30 were \$6,500. Of this sum \$3,300 was paid upon indebtedness upon real estate. The total indebtedness of the institution is \$60,000, of which \$30,000 is upon real estate. The value of its real estate, including buildings, fixtures, furniture and all appurtenances, is estimated at \$100,000.

UTICA ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Utica.

About two miles from the depot, at the intersection of Pleasant and Genesee streets, amidst pleasant surroundings and commanding wide views of the beautiful country around, is situated the Utica Orphan Asylum. The grounds upon which the edifice stands contain five acres, are laid out in walks and garden patches, and adorned with shade and ornamental trees. The building, which consists of a main with a tower and two wings, is a commodious brick structure. It is entered by a broad hallway, which soon opens at right angles into the longer hall, extending longitudinally through the whole length of the building, and opening upon the grounds at either end. It was evidently planned with great care, and with a view to combine all modern improvements. Its capacity is for one hundred and twenty-five inmates. The following epitome of its history has been obtained from those well informed of its work:

“The origin of the Asylum dates back as far as 1830, when there existed in the village of Utica a sewing society, conducted by a few benevolent ladies in the interests of the needy. Three little children, having been about this time left utterly destitute by the death of both parents, were thrown upon the pity of the public. One of these ladies, Mrs. Sophia Derbyshire Bagg, imbued with a true motherly feeling, was unwilling to leave these helpless orphans ‘to the cold charity provided by public taxation,’ and undertook to maintain them in a way that enlisted her heart as well as her hands. She proposed to her associates that they should devote the proceeds of their needles to the support of these three little charges left without any earthly friend. Her proposal was at once acquiesced in, and the children provided for. The distressing fact that no provision existed for destitute children

other than the poor-house, soon became apparent, and the degrading influences to which children were there subjected, induced these ladies to think about establishing some asylum for their care, where they might not only enjoy the advantages of a home, but also the benefits of Christian teaching. Accordingly, on the 7th of January, 1830, a meeting was held for the purpose of forming an Orphan Asylum Society, and on the 19th of the following April the present Asylum was incorporated.

"Through the industry and untiring efforts of the ladies a fund of \$5,000 was accumulated and placed at interest. In 1844 a legacy of \$1,000 was received from Moses Bagg, the husband of the originator of the charity, toward the erection of an asylum building, which was completed and occupied in 1850. Up to this time the asylum was the recipient of several small legacies, but in 1854 a new era of prosperity dawned. Dr. Samuel Healy, of Syracuse, left to the institution \$2,500, and a generous citizen of Utica, Alfred Munson, left by his will \$5,000 toward the erection of a new and suitable building, and the sum of \$25,000 to be securely invested, together with valuable lands in Pennsylvania, on condition that the citizens of Utica should raise and apply the sum of \$10,000 toward the purchase of three acres of ground within the city and toward the erection of the building. These conditions were fulfilled by the liberal benefactions of the citizens of the city of Utica, one of whom made a gift of the desirable lot upon which the building now in use was erected in 1860. There have been many noble benefactions to this asylum, including one in 1866 of \$25,000, from Mr. Silas D. Childs, conditioned as a permanent fund."

The institution was re-incorporated by special act of the Legislature, March 26, 1856. Its affairs are controlled by a Board of Trustees, consisting of a first, second and third Directress, a Secretary, Treasurer, and nineteen Managers. This Board is assisted by an Advisory Committee of gentlemen. The house is under the immediate care of a Matron, with a corps of assistants made up of a teacher, a seamstress, two nurses, two laundresses, a cook, three female attendants, and a gardener. One of the larger girls attends in the dining room.

At the date of visitation, September 14, there were ninety inmates. This has been the average number during the year. Children are received from two years of age upward. Girls are allowed to remain until fourteen, and boys until twelve. But there is, practically, no specified time for keeping them; this is governed by circumstances. Dependent children are received from the overseer of the poor, the county contributing about \$1.25 a week to their support. Surviving parents of children, when able, pay from fifty cents to a dollar per week. A lower rate of board for half-orphan children, however, is fixed when paid by the mother, than when the father pays.

Children are placed out in families, and their interests looked after by a committee, who are said to be active in their duties, corresponding with the children and visiting them periodically.

The Matron, Mrs. F. B. Tufts, said, in regard to the industries carried on: "Our children are mostly too young to be taught trades. The girls learn to do various kinds of domestic work, to wash dishes, make beds," etc.

The routine of the day was given as follows:

"The children rise at six o'clock, dress and wash, after which prayers are said in the sitting room. The children are then exercised in their Sunday-school lessons, the Matron superintending. Breakfast takes place at seven. After breakfast the older children go to their work. The boys clear off the table, sweep the dining room, and the girls make their own beds with the assistance of the superintendent. All assemble in the school at nine o'clock and remain there till twelve, with the exception of an intermission of fifteen minutes. Dinner is served at twelve, after which there is recreation till half-past one, when they enter the school-room again and remain till half-past four. After school they have recreation till five o'clock. Supper is served at five. In winter they have supper very soon after school. The little girls set the tables and assist in light branches of house-work. After supper the children play till bed-time. In winter the younger children go to bed about seven, but the older ones are permitted to stay up a little later. Prayers are said before retiring. Sometimes the children sing; sometimes they repeat psalms. The exercise is varied."

In regard to discipline, the Matron said: "I do not attempt to keep military order. For trifling things I do not punish the children; but for graver offenses I sometimes whip them on the hand and sometimes lock them up. I think children may be governed too much. I find that a little punishment answers the same purpose as a great deal."

The school room is a spacious apartment, with high ceilings. Slabs of slate are paneled in the walls as a substitute for blackboards. The walls are adorned with illuminated cards in frames. The room is furnished with a piano, and the teacher instructs the children in vocal music. There is a separate room for the primary class. The Asylum has a juvenile library, containing nearly four hundred volumes.

The dormitories are furnished with wooden bedsteads, straw ticks and feather pillows. Comfortables are used in the winter. A beautiful feature of the Asylum consists in the custom of allowing a few of the larger girls to have tastefully furnished and pleasant private rooms. These were found to be carpeted, hung with pictures, and supplied

with dressing tables, containing drawers; also with comfortable chairs, including rocking chairs.

The nursery for the little boys and girls was nicely furnished. A nurse sleeps in the room with the small children, twenty of whom were found, on the day of visitation, ranging from two to five years.

The children appeared healthy and clean. There were no sick children in the infirmary. It was stated that one death had occurred during the past year, being the only one during the past ten.

The dining room was furnished with stools for the older children, and baby chairs for the little ones.

The laundry is complete in its arrangements, and so separated from the main building as to prevent any vapor from ascending and penetrating the house.

The water-closets are outside the building. There are also night closets attached to the nursery. The bathing accommodations are ample.

The play rooms for boys and girls are distinct, and are located on either side of the building.

The garden supplies all the vegetables except potatoes. Fresh fruit, including apples and pears, is liberally donated by friends of the Asylum. The milk is brought fresh from the country, seventy-five quarts being purchased daily.

Although this Asylum was established for the purpose of caring for orphan and half-orphan children, with a commendable spirit of liberality, destitute children having both parents living are likewise received within its hospitable walls.

At the date of October 1, according to the report of the first Directress, Mrs. Cornelia Graham, thirteen of the inmates were orphans, one hundred and fifteen were half-orphans, fourteen had both parents living, and of ten it was unknown whether they had parents living or not. No record designating the nationality of the children's parents having been kept, this point could not be ascertained. One hundred and thirty-six of the children were from Oneida county, and sixteen from Herkimer. Forty-six were partially supported by parents or friends, sixteen by counties, and thirty-one wholly by the institution. The number of children received during the year ending October 1, was fifty-three. Twenty-five were discharged during the year by adoption, thirty-two were returned to parents or guardians, and one was transferred to another institution.

It could not be ascertained with accuracy how many children had received the benefits of this charity since its foundation, but the number falls little short of two thousand. Its receipts during the past year were \$13,176.89, and its expenditures \$11,768.64. The value of its personal estate is \$139,984.24.

It would be impossible to estimate the pecuniary, to say nothing of the moral benefit accruing to society by this charity. To save two thousand children from dependence would be, in itself, a great and noble work, but when the influence for good or evil, which each one of these children is capable of exerting, is considered, the indebtedness of the community to this charitable institution becomes still more apparent.

THOMAS ASYLUM FOR ORPHAN AND DESTITUTE INDIAN CHILDREN.

Versailles, P. O.

The inception of the humane work now being conducted on the Cattaraugus Reservation in behalf of orphan and destitute Indian children must be attributed to that spirit of love and justice which was the rule of action guiding William Penn in his early intercourse and dealings with the Indians, and which has continued to follow, with its benign influence, this people of unhappy destiny through all the lights and shadows of their history. With watchful zeal the Society of Friends have protected them from the grasping avarice of the white man, stepping forward to vindicate their rights and appealing to the highest tribunal for the redress of their wrongs.

At the time of their settling upon the Reservation, the Friends established in their interest an industrial school, taught them the arts of peace with a view to fitting them for their changed conditions, without which preparation, extinction, inevitably, awaited them.

The following history of the Thomas Orphan Asylum, and of the antecedent work upon the Reservation, with which it is linked, has been gathered from various sources, but in the main has been furnished by Mrs. Wright, widow of the late Reverend Asher Wright, missionary, who during her husband's thirty years of earnest missionary labor among the Indians on this reservation, proved at all times his faithful and intelligent co-worker: "There was originally a boarding or industrial school maintained here by the Society of Friends, and under the charge of a family selected out of its members. It was a free school. Indian girls were here received, and while being educated were also taught to work. This school was in operation, I think, about fifteen years, perhaps longer, and was closed about twenty years ago. Mr. Wright and myself came here in 1845. The school was then in existence, but remained in operation only a short time after that. About the time the Friends closed their school, one of the prominent members of the society, Philip E. Thomas, of Baltimore, who had always taken great interest in this school, and was likewise noted for his benevolence and

philanthropy, was here visiting the Indians. I remarked to him that I regretted the closing of the school and wished that it might be reopened as an orphan asylum. This was about the time the Indians made a change in their government from what was called the Chiefs' Government, mainly representing the pagan element, to that known as the New Government, controlled by those who preferred to give up the old wigwam life, sustained by hunting and fishing, for the usages of civilized society and agricultural pursuits. Mr. Thomas and others of the Friends proposed the opening of an industrial school by the new government in the same building in which the Friends had conducted their school. This proposition was accepted, and a small appropriation was made by the new Indian government to begin this school. It was opened by the officers of the new government, with about sixteen scholars, and placed in charge of a Mrs. Hall, a widow lady; but the new government was poor, and it soon became evident that the work must be again taken up and carried on by the benevolently disposed among the whites. The school continued in operation only three or four months.

"About this time, that is to say in the summer of 1854, an Indian died on the Reservation leaving a large family of children in extreme want. The sympathy excited on behalf of the family led to an inquiry into the condition of other poor children who had been left orphans. It was soon ascertained that on this Reservation alone, not less than fifty were in circumstances of great destitution and suffering. The question arose, 'How can this distress be relieved?' The treasury of the Indian Government was empty, and there were no institutions accessible to the poor of this description. Mr. Wright and myself communicated with the Friends through Mr. Thomas. He deeply regretted the closing of the School, and requested that a few of the most destitute children be collected and sustained through the approaching winter at his expense, and in connection with the arrangements for this object a permanent asylum was developed. Ten children were taken into our family, where they remained about a year and a half until the asylum building was ready to receive them. They were all taken from extreme poverty and destitution. One of the little boys, an orphan, was under the care of an aunt. In a fit of anger she tried to destroy him. After beating him severely, she held him under the water in a pool until the poor boy ceased to struggle. He was picked up, providentially, by an Indian who chanced to pass that way, and brought to the Asylum. Several of the children must have perished but for the timely aid thus furnished. These children have since grown up to be men and women, and have turned out well. "After the children had been thus comfortably provided for, Mr. Thomas suggested that Mr. Wright might secure aid from the State in

this charitable undertaking, and enlarge the work. In furtherance of the enterprise to establish a permanent asylum, the Council of the Seneca Nation passed resolutions approving of such a project, and authorizing the use of land. Ten persons, five of them whites and connected with as many different religious denominations, and five Indians associated themselves as Trustees and applied for a charter of incorporation. Mr. Wright proceeded to Albany, and laid the claims of the Indian children before the Legislature, which resulted in an appropriation for the erection of an asylum building of \$2,000, and the incorporation, under date of April 10th, 1855, of the "Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children."

At the time of the passage of this act nine children were under the care of Mr. and Mrs. Wright, supported principally at the expense of Mr. Thomas. In view of this and of his benevolent work among the Indians, his name was given to the institution. The aims of the trustees were originally confined to the Cattaraugus Reservation, but the Legislature, in view of the aid granted, required them to admit beneficiaries from all the Reservations in the State in proportion to their respective populations. As a means of providing temporary assistance for the Asylum, two brass bands composed of young men (Indians), with a choir of singers, gave a voluntary concert in Buffalo, and a benevolent citizen of the place took it upon himself to insure the pecuniary success of the enterprise, from which an acceptable sum for defraying current expenses was realized.

As soon as practicable after receiving their charter, the trustees procured a lot of ground containing fifteen acres, to which additions have been made, making the whole number of acres at present appropriated to the use of the Asylum about fifty-six. This has been selected from the rich bottom lands of the Cattaraugus Valley, and is pleasantly situated. Preparations were at once commenced for building, but by reason of unavoidable hindrances it was the 14th of September before the corner-stone was laid. Five thousand persons from the surrounding community were present to evince their sympathy with this humane enterprise. One of the State officers, who was present, made an effective speech on the long chapter of Indian wrongs from an incoming and overpowering race, and expressed the hope that this new movement might be regarded as the pledge of a kindlier and more humane policy in future. He was followed by an old Indian, who acknowledged that it was indeed true that formerly the two races met only for purposes of mutual destruction, but now for the exchange of mutual sympathies and deeds of kindness. He then proceeded to describe at length the benefits conferred by the white man upon the Indians, and, in the name of the people, to thank the State for this last and greatest act of kindness in providing for their orphan children.

The lateness of the season and the severity of the following winter prevented the early completion of the building. An additional appropriation was made of \$1,500 by the Legislature to enable it to carry out the requirements of its charter, and \$500 was sent by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington. The work was pushed forward on the opening of spring, and by the middle of June the rooms were ready to be furnished.

Soon after the corner-stone was laid certain ladies of Versailles aided the Indian people in the organization of a social circle for mutual improvement. This association resolved to labor for the orphans. The young men furnished funds for the purchase of materials, and the young ladies wrought fancy articles of bead-work, etc., with a design of holding a fair at the opening of the institution. Ladies in Jamestown, Buffalo, and several other places contributed a variety of beautiful articles, and the fair was held on the 18th of June. A generous sum was realized from the sale of the articles, most of which was expended in the purchasing of furniture for the Asylum. With this, and donations from Philip E. Thomas and the Society of Friends, the house was furnished. A span of horses, a double wagon and three milch cows were provided. There were also creditable gifts made from several Sabbath-schools. Altogether the Trustees were enabled to furnish the building sufficiently for immediate occupancy. One additional child had been received during the preceding summer. This and the other ten were removed to their new home, and arrangements made for receiving other beneficiaries. From the commencement, in the fall of 1854, to the 31st of December, 1856, the following sums were received:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| From the State, toward erection of buildings..... | \$3,500 00 |
| From the State, toward support of children..... | 215 45 |
| From the Commissioner of Indian Affairs | 1,000 00 |
| From Philip E. Thomas and the Society of Friends..... | 780 00 |
| Proceeds of concert in Buffalo..... | 165 72 |
| Contributed at the laying of the corner-stone..... | 168 02 |
| From the A. B. C. F. M., for Matron..... | 145 00 |
| Annuities of children | 111 08 |
| Various collections and donations..... | 266 92 |
| Total | <u>\$6,352 19</u> |

Notwithstanding the aid extended by the State and the benevolent who were interested in this enterprise, it was with very great difficulty that sufficient funds could be raised to carry on the work of this large field, and but for the zeal of the venerable missionary and his wife

already referred to, and the earnest efforts of its officers, the enterprise must of necessity have been either abandoned or sunk into comparative insignificance. Their appeals to the public have been frequent, and the work has been followed up persistently through a long period of financial embarrassment.

In the winter of 1875 it was found that in consequence of the recent amendment of the State constitution, the yearly aid that had been customarily given by the State, could not be continued. In this emergency Mr. Wright, then enfeebled by years, again appeared at Albany in behalf of the Indian children. He was accompanied by a tried friend of the Asylum, its treasurer, Mr. E. M. Petit. These gentlemen, in conjunction with the members of the State Board of Charities, brought the critical condition of the Indian children before the attention of their friends in the Legislature. The result was the passage on the 24th of April of the following act:

AN ACT to reorganize the Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children, on the Cattaraugus reservation, and to provide for its management and maintenance.

SECTION 1. If, within ninety days after the passage of this act, the trustees of "The Thomas Asylum for Orphan and Destitute Indian Children," a corporation created by chapter two hundred and thirty-three of the laws of 1855, shall transfer and convey to the people of the State of New York, all of the property of said corporation, by a good and sufficient conveyance to the satisfaction of the Comptroller of the State of New York, and shall deposit the same with said Comptroller, the management and control of said Asylum shall be assumed and continued by ten managers on the part of the State, who shall serve without pay, and whose term of office shall be six years, subject to removal at any time by the governor, for cause shown, and all vacancies caused by removal, expiration of term of office or otherwise, shall be filled by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate.

§ 2. The first managers shall be Eber M. Petit, Asher Wright, Elisha Brown, Henry C. Gaylord, Philo H. Carrier, white men, and Lewis Seneca, Sylvester Loy, Hiram Dennis, Joshua Pierce and Zechariah L. Jemeson, Indians.

§ 3. The said managers of said asylum shall, on application, receive destitute and orphan children from each of the several reservations located within this State, and shall furnish them such care, moral training and education, and such instruction in husbandry and the arts of civilization as they shall prescribe by their rules and by-laws.

§ 5. Said managers shall organize and choose one of their number president, and appoint a secretary. They shall also make by-laws and rules and regulations for the transaction of their business, and for the regulation and management of said institution. They shall also appoint a suitable person as superintendent, and such other employés as may be necessary to properly carry on the business of said institution, and fix the compensation of said superintendent and such other employés.

§ 5. The said asylum shall be at all times subject to the visitation, supervision and control of the State Board of Charities; and the managers of said asylum shall annually, on or before the fifteenth day of January, report to the Legislature the condition of said asylum, including a true account in detail of the receipt and disbursement of all moneys that shall come into their hands, the number, age and sex of such destitute and orphan Indian children in said asylum, with the name and reservation to which they belong, and portion of the year each has been maintained and instructed in said asylum.

The institution is located in the southern part of Erie county, New York, on the Cattaraugus Reservation, a little more than a mile from the village of Versailles, its post-office. The grounds are inclosed in front with a neat fence, and the main building is situated a little apart from the road. It is painted a buff color, and has pleasant verandas. A grassy lawn with trees extends in front. Back of the main are grouped the barns and outbuildings, which are lime-washed in a tint corresponding with the Asylum building. A good sized orchard of thrifty grafted apple trees affords shade on its right and in front. In a beautiful grove of oak trees a little distance from the Asylum stands the school-house, a tasteful structure, capable of accommodating all the Asylum children of a school-attending age. The school is under the Department of Public Instruction. The teachers make their home in the Asylum building. The general appearance of the grounds and buildings, as one approaches, makes an agreeable impression on the mind.

The President of the Board of Managers is an Indian, Lewis Seneca. The working force of the Asylum consists of a Superintendent, a Matron, Assistant Matron, a seamstress, housekeeper, assistant laundress, and general assistant. In summer a farm hand is employed, and in winter a foreman in the broom shop.

The most recent visitation was made October 1, 1875. The school was then beginning to organize after the midsummer vacation, which usually lasts six weeks, when those who have friends are at liberty to return to them, but which had been this year protracted on account of the breaking out of measles among the children that remained in the Asylum. Nine were on the sick list, five of whom were convalescent. The Superintendent, Mr. Hall, said: "During the spring eight deaths occurred among the children, all from consumption, save one. The doctor is of opinion that the consumption in every case was traceable to the scrofulous tendencies which the children had inherited. Very few Indian children are without some taint of scrofula."

It is asserted that this taint is generally perceptible in the offensive breath of the children even when otherwise they may appear to be quite healthy. Their constitutions are consequently enfeebled, and they are more liable to suffer from epidemics than white children.

The Asylum is supplied with water by an Artesian well, a hydraulic ram being used to force it through the building. The house is heated by stoves and lighted by kerosene. The ventilation is from the windows, the sashes of which are adjusted by cords, weights and pulleys. The children bathe once a week. The dormitories are furnished with single iron bedsteads.

The children assembled for dinner during our visit. The dining room was furnished with long tables. The boys and girls ate separately. The tables were well supplied with good food. Before partaking, the children repeated in unison the following form of grace, taught them by the Rev. Asher Wright:

"O God we thank Thee for Thy care that keeps us alive and well. Bless us while we are eating this food and feed us with the true bread that comes from Thee that our souls may live forever, Amen."

The meal consisted of meat, potatoes and bread pudding. The girls wore blue check aprons and the boys were variously dressed. The Superintendent says: "The children always have coffee in the morning and bread and milk for supper." The holidays of Christmas, New Years, Independence and Thanksgiving are duly observed.

Children are received at all ages, but it is not considered desirable to admit infants. The youngest inmate on the day of visitation was two and a half years old; the oldest over sixteen. Mr. Hall says: "The boys are more inclined to go back among their people than the girls. There are a good many cases that turn out well, but more that disappoint us.

"We aim to get the girls among the whites. We have two now at the State Normal School, who are being educated for teachers. Their characters are good, and they are quite intelligent. Indian children should be looked after, till they are twenty or twenty-one. Just before then is the most critical time with them as they are so apt to lapse into drunkenness and immorality. The trouble with the boys is that when they are old enough, they go off with the Indians."

Some of the boys, Mr. Hall was very proud of; spoke of them as perfectly reliable and trustworthy, and seemed to think that as a general thing when the boys were put with farmers among the white people, and kept away from evil associates among their own, they turned out well. "Our boys make good farm hands. People like to employ them. They get up early in the morning and work diligently all day. Many Indian boys are ruined by the neighbors giving them cider to drink."

Mr. Hall said: "I do not approve of whipping, as a measure of discipline; I prefer locking the boys up in a room where they may have books and pictures to entertain themselves, or to keep them in from play." The importance of inculcating habits of industry is fully recognized, and forms a principal feature in the asylum training. Mr.

Hall says: "The girls are taught to make themselves useful about the house. Each one has some portion of the house to care for. They do a great deal of the sewing and dish-washing. We attempt every thing pertaining to household duties except bread baking. That is done in a separate building by an outside party. Indian girls may become skillful in housewifery. One of our girls took the premium at the fair for the best bread.

"The boys chop wood, do all the chores at the barn, and in winter make brooms out of the broom-corn that is raised in summer. We made about four hundred dozen last year. They sell well; they do not bring the highest price, but they sell rapidly. The boys, with the hired man, do the work."

The institution has two sewing machines. There is also a library of two hundred volumes, and a melodeon, on which the girls play.

On October 1, 1875, the number of children in the Asylum, who were orphans, was nineteen, half orphans, forty, and who had both parents living, sixteen.

One was from the Onondaga Reservation, seventeen from the Allegany, forty-seven from the Cattaraugus, five from the Tonawanda, and five from the Tuscarora. The total number received since the organization of the Asylum is three hundred and eighty-eight.

During the past year twenty acres of the farm were devoted to broom-corn, three to potatoes, one and a half to corn, and about two acres to garden vegetables, including onions, squashes, carrots, peas, tomatoes and cabbages. "In a good year," says Mr. Hall, "we have one hundred bushels of potatoes." Strawberries and raspberries are raised for the inmates. Seven milch cows are kept, and beeves are purchased and fattened for house supply.

On being asked if the character of the children of the Indians was treacherous, Mr. Hall said: "The Indian children are loving; they are not demonstrative in the expression of their feelings, but when you are in need of help, you can always rely upon them, and they will make large sacrifices to serve you. Indian children are more quiet than other children, but their affections will crop out at times when you least expect it."

Among the inmates were descendants of the distinguished chief Corn Planter, and of the noted Indian orator Red Jacket.

Mr. Hall, on being asked his opinion as to the best way to train Indian children, said: "I have been here seventeen years; I was on the Allegany Indian Reservation before that; I have been altogether twenty-nine years among the Indians, and am of opinion that if the Indian children could be brought into families where they could have a thorough family bringing up, where they would have a seat at our tables and eat the same kind of food as we eat, making no difference

The Asylum is supplied with hydraulic ram being house is heated by from the window and pulleys. The furnished with

The children room was fitted ately. The ing, the taught

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Asylum Director in New York
I have been almost tempted to sit at the table. They are, I know, under the impression that their food is not as good as mine, but if I ate at the same table with them, they could not think so."

Mr. Hall, on being asked his opinion of the condition of the Indians on the Reservation, said: "I can see a decided improvement during the last ten years. In fact, I think I can see wonderful improvements. They are better farmers, are more industrious, intelligent and enterprising."

The long experience of Mrs. Wright, while pursuing her self-denying missionary labors among the Indians, renders her opinion on this subject worthy of record: "Within the last half-dozen years a great many Indians who went to the war have come back intemperate. There has been a general relapse all over the country. It seems so to me at least, from the number of drunken people that come to our Indian fairs. But I think, with this drawback, the standard of morals has advanced considerably, and that there has been a great improvement among the Indians, especially in farming. Even among the pagan portion of the people, they have better implements for cultivating the land. There are several families that send their milk to the cheese factory now."

We are indebted to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for the following statistics, showing the number of Indians between the ages of five and twenty-one on the several reservations of the State.

| | |
|--|-----|
| On the Allegany and Cattaraugus Reservation..... | 850 |
| On the Tonawanda Reservation..... | 134 |
| On the Tuscarora Reservation..... | 181 |
| On the Onondaga Reservation..... | 125 |
| On the St. Regis Reservation..... | 267 |
| On the Poospatuck Reservation..... | 17 |
| On the Shinnecock Reservation..... | 43 |
| On the Oneida and Madison Reservation..... | 46 |

It must be admitted that the most hopeful means of elevating the Indian race is by instructing the children in the industries and usages of white people. This, it has been demonstrated, can be done successfully. More importance is therefore attached to the work of the Asylum, especially as the class relieved by it would, if neglected, largely become outcasts. The humanity and intelligence of the Legislature in making provision for this unfortunate and helpless class, who in view of their lost birthright have strong claims upon the sympathy of the public, is self-apparent.

JEFFERSON COUNTY ORPHAN ASYLUM.

Watertown.

The Jefferson County Orphan Asylum is situated on Franklin street, in the city of Watertown. Its object is the "protecting, relieving and educating of orphan and destitute children." It was incorporated May 11, 1859, under the general act, as the "Watertown Home for Destitute, Friendless and Orphan Children." Subsequently, by a special act of the Legislature, chapter 38, Laws of 1864, the charter was amended, and its name changed to its present title.

The building at present occupied was erected in 1864. It is a plain brick structure, resting on a stone basement sixty-five by fifty. Including the basement and attic it is four stories high, and roofed with slate.

In the basement are the kitchen, dining rooms, store-rooms, laundry, cellar and coal room. The first story is traversed by a broad central hall, on the sides of which are a parlor, school-room, a large clothes room, hospital room, waiting room, a girls' bath room, supplied with hot and cold water, and a water closet. Beyond is the boys' bath-room, similarly supplied with water, and connecting with a large clothes room. On this floor is also the nursery, with nurse's bed-room and closet attached.

On the floor above are the dormitories for boys and girls, while the attic is a spacious, unfinished room.

The window sashes are adjusted by cords, weights and pulleys. The ceilings are high. The house is heated principally by furnaces. Several stoves are used in damp weather to take the chill off the halls. The building is airy, cheerful, and seemingly well arranged, and could, with the upper story, accommodate seventy-five or a hundred children.

The edifice stands a little apart from the street upon a lot containing two acres. It is surrounded by the original forest trees.

The institution is under the control of a Board of Nine Trustees, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, and the County Judge, being *ex officio* members.

The management of the institution is intrusted to a Board of Lady Directors.

The Asylum is under the immediate charge of Mrs. Torey, Matron, assisted by her husband. Her subordinate aid consists of a teacher, nurse, two girls in the kitchen, and a laundry girl.

The origin of the institution may be stated as follows:

"In 1859, the sudden death of a mother, leaving a family of five little ones with a drunken father, induced a few benevolent ladies to hire a small house, and open it for their reception and for others

equally needy. In a few days there were some fifteen inmates gathered together under the supervision of Miss Jane Frasier, a lady of untiring zeal and great fidelity and kindness. This small family were, for several years, moved from house to house, as one could be obtained, and were supported by individual liberality, and by means of fairs and festivals, till 1865. About the year 1862, liberal donations were made to procure a permanent location, and the lot of ground on which the present building stands was purchased. There was at the time a small building upon it, which was prepared for the reception of the children and Matron, and occupied till the present building was erected. In 1865, the supervisors of the county decided that 'the Asylum was more fitting in every respect than the poor-house for dependent children,' and authorized the Superintendent of the Poor to send such children to the Asylum, to be there maintained at the expense of the county. Since that period the Supervisors have made an annual appropriation to the Asylum. During the five years following there was a large number of children accommodated, and, up to the present time, between seven and eight hundred have been sheltered within the hospitable walls of this worthy institution."

Children are received under two years or over ten only in exceptional cases. The religious instruction imparted is Evangelical. In the school room the children are under the care of a competent teacher.

On the day of visitation, August 4, there were twenty-eight inmates, the smallest number it ever had. Six were girls and twenty-two were boys. Children are retained only long enough to secure them good homes. They are mainly from Jefferson county. Two of the inmates were daughters of soldiers who had been killed in the war, and came from Clinton county. The following information regarding the asylum was furnished by Mrs. Robert Lansing, its first directress:

"Applications for children are being constantly made to the asylum, thus obviating the necessity of advertising to procure them homes. They are placed out three months on trial, after which a permanent arrangement is made, if desired, by both parties.

"Very few children are now bound out. More than half are adopted into families.

"The Asylum has never suffered from any prevailing sickness, and has rarely had occasion to call in medical aid.

"A careful record of the children sent out is kept, and the institution requires that the parties who take children shall report upon their condition from time to time.

"There is no systematic plan of visiting. This work is deemed to rest properly with the Supervisors in each town.

"The Asylum objects to taking children over ten years of age who

have been left to run about the streets. It is thought they have a bad influence on the others. It is considered very important that while children are in the Asylum they should be in school, and special attention is given to their education. The girls are taught needle-work, and the older boys help in the garden.

"We seldom have been troubled with refractory children, and hence the use of harsh discipline is rare.

"The aim of the asylum is to inculcate moral and religious principles. We take great pains to implant the sentiment that they must be loving.

"It is a rule of the house that all the children must bathe once a week.

"Ample time for play is afforded, and the regular holidays are duly observed. On Christmas the children have their Christmas tree, or some entertainment to take its place."

One of the little girls of the Asylum was going to leave on the day of our visitation. A desirable home had been secured for her and her new guardians had come to take her away. The Asylum had provided quite an outfit for the little one, and she appeared to be entering upon her new life under very happy auspices.

In this institution was found a little boy with a club foot. He had been operated upon successfully a short time previous, and was rapidly acquiring the use of his limb.

The total number of children who have shared the benefits of this institution since its organization, is seven hundred and ten. The number received during the past year was thirteen; the number discharged, eighteen. Of the latter, three were placed out by adoption; five returned to parents or guardians; one transferred to another institution; eight otherwise discharged, and one died. The total expenditures during the year were \$2,763.07. The invested funds of the Asylum are valued at \$10,050. It has no indebtedness.

CONCLUSION.

In closing this report, one cannot well refrain from saying that a general survey of the benevolent work being carried on throughout the State, in asylums, reformatories, aid societies, industrial schools, and other institutions for the care of children, gives one a higher conception of our humanity and its unselfish capabilities. These institutions appear like bright centers from which the goodness of a Divine Being radiates to the homeless and suffering. Dispense with all these benevolent agencies, and society would quickly sink

into barbarism. The hands of those engaged in the work should be strengthened, not only with our sympathy, but by our pecuniary aid. The State is now expending millions in the erection of a princely capitol which, when completed, will not equal in value one human life rescued from infamy, and reared to the full stature of virtue and godliness. The individuals engaged in this moral work are, with patient labor, shaping the uncouth outlines of crude characters into forms of grace and beauty, as certainly as are the workmen chiseling the various granite blocks for their places in that stately edifice; and these characters, when completed, will each have its place in the great structure of society, forming an edifice more beautiful, and of greater value, than it is possible to rear by human hands.

To the Commissioners of the Board who have kindly aided me in their respective districts; to the Secretary of the Board and his Assistant, from the first of whom, in addition to valuable service, I have been furnished with considerable historical matter previously collected by him at much pains; to Asylum Officials, and others kindly disposed for whose courtesy I am indebted; and to Mr. Frederick Carman, stenographer, whose faithful labors have been, in part, gratuitous, I beg to tender my cordial thanks.

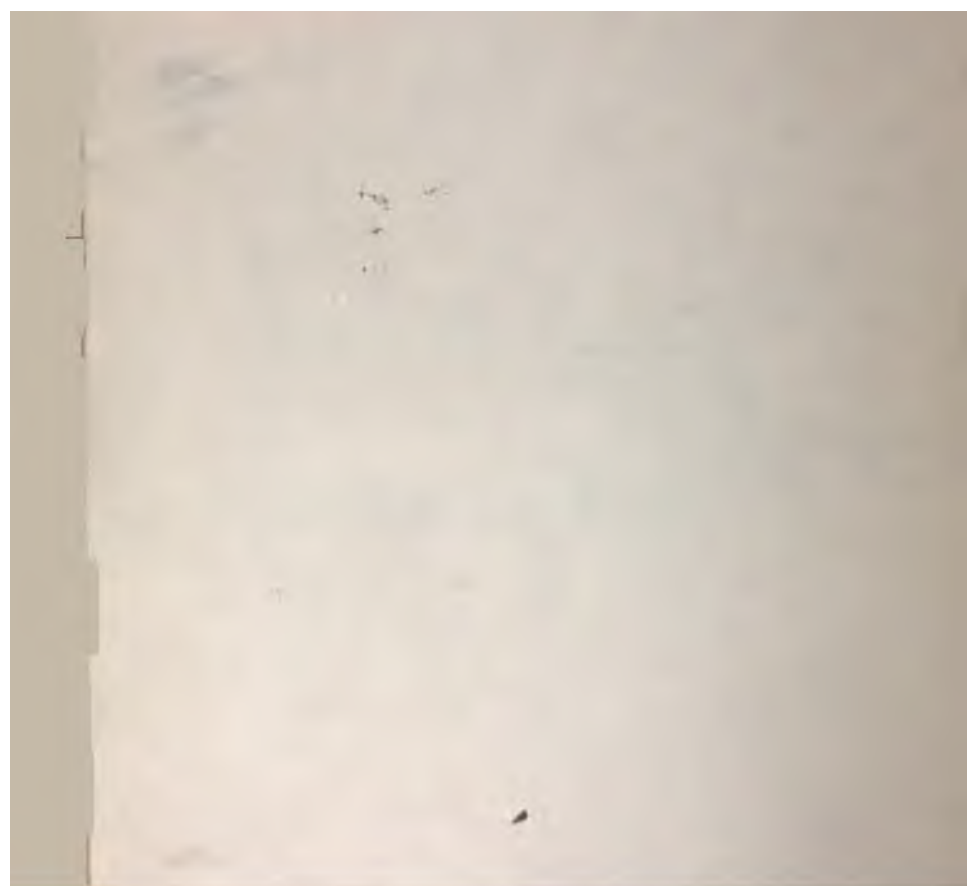
Respectfully submitted,

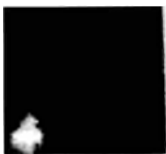
WILLIAM P. LETCHWORTH,

Commissioner Eighth Judicial District.

Dated ALBANY, *January 11th*, 1876.







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